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No. 7801.—Vol. L. THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 1890. Price One Penny.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by Robert Buchanan. LAST NINE NIGHTS. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LIVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, T. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves Topping, Gurney, Harwood; Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING. Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle (unreserved), 2s. 6d. Gallery, 1s.

MATINÉE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT, March 22, and following SATURDAYS, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)

THE DEAD HEART.—A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (125th time), Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45. MATINÉES of THE DEAD HEART. There will be two morning performances of The Dead Heart on Saturdays 12th and 19th April. On these Saturday nights THE BELLS will be played.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Wyndham.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. (Last 100 nights.) Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner, Mr. H. Saker; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Benton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOOD-BYE. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—Resignation of Mr. Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, and Company, in DAVID GARRICK, on SATURDAY NEXT.

GAIETY THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Hollingshead.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Costeni, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. G. T. Minshull, and Mr. Fred. Storey. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. Edward Terry.)
(Manageress, Miss Granard.)

TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerr, Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.40 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Gifford Helen Ayton, Rose Dorning, Oscar Asche, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. MATINÉE SATURDAY NEXT, at 2. Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8, THE BUNGALOW, by Frederick Horner. 185th Performance. The greatest success of modern times. Received with peals of laughter and thunders of applause. At 8.15. ISALDA. Doors open 7.45. Messrs. C. Glenney, J. Verke Stephens, Compton Coutts, Bassett Roe, Matthew Brodie, R. Stockton, and Fred Kaye; Misses Sophie Larkin, Helen Forsyth, Vane Featherston, Annie Rose, and Cissy Richards. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.6, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 162nd Time. Mr. Frank Cooper, Messrs. Marius, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Tom Huffaker, M. Ilosh, H. Russell, Jones, C. Norbacke, G. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate Jones, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Thorne.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, CLARISSA. SHADOW SWEET. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. E. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, E. Grove, F. Cellier, and Fred Thorne; Miss Winifred Emery, Mesdames Mary Collette, G. Owen, L. Bryer, F. Weymes, Lily Hanbury, and Miss Banister. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. R. Benson.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, HAMLET. Messrs. Cartwright, Benson, Black, Ross, Stuart, Grenville, Howard, Gurney, Holland, Rossman, Shaw, Weir, Forde, Brydone, Major, Meadows, Powell, Phillips, Meadow Ferrar, Owen, Benson, and Lugg. N.B.—A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM EVERY EVENING at 8 (Thursdays and Fridays excepted) and WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY MATINEES at 2.30.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wilson Barrett.)

TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which Mr. WILSON BARRETT and powerful artistic will appear.—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepperd, George Pulsford, E. Mayeur, F. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Hindley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open at 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Tyler) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mrs. Langtry.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Mesdames M'Neil, Lee, Lorde, Archeuster, Bell, Moore, Gamble, Bennett, Everill, Fulton, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Smith, Cannings, Sandford, Grover, Lingham, Arnoldie, Irvyne, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.30, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. C. Danton Cotton, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Harry Monkhouse, A. Lawrence, and Harry Monkhouse. Preceded at 7.50 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 5,703.

GARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. John Hare.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.0, A PAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. R. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. G. W. Anson, Mr. H. R. Knight, Mr. R. Harding, Mr. Byron, Miss Blanche Horlock, Mrs. E. Hunter, and Miss Kate Rorke. Preceded, at 7.0, by DREAM FACES. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Pringle; Miss Blanche Horlock and Miss Cissy Grahame. Specially arranged Supper Room. Doors open 7.00. MATINEE SATURDAY, March 22, at 2 p.m. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. Compton.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Manager, E. S. Willard and John Lart. Lessees and Managers, Proprietor, Mr. John Lancaster.
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
LAST NINE NIGHTS.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, A. W. Pinero, Lugg, Lane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Royston Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, F. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, Sarah Lane, Moore, &c. Box-office open 10 to 5. Doors open 7.00. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. Griffiths.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry J. Leslie.)

EVERY EVENING, at 8.20, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Maud Holland, Lucy Buckstone, Farrell and Phipps, Messrs. Dewhurst, Lewis Bruce, Alec Mack, C. Lamb, J. Le Hay, Frank H. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 9.0., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, revised by Isaac Agnew, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Bromley Davenport, H. Hamilton, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Miss Nancy Noverre. Preceded, at 8, by ONE NUMBER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box-office open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Telephone, 5,728.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.)

TO-NIGHT at 8, 250th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Fred Conc, Mr. A. Ayresworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. T. Turner, Mr. Powell; Mrs. W. Quinton, Miss Hippisley, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.15, TO THE RESCUE. Mr. R. Belgrym, Mr. F. Farren. Miss E. Harrington and Mrs. Hodges. COURT THEATRE will be CLOSED during Passion Week, REOPENING EASTER MONDAY with AUNT JACK.
Notice.—LAST WEEKS of AUNT JACK.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. Gilbert Alexander.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, MISS CINDERELLA. At 9, DR. BILL.
Messrs. George Alexander, Beerbohm Tree, Benjamin Webster, George Giddens, Basil, Henry Grattan, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Robins, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Laura Graves, Edith Edwards, Lily Young, and Fanny Brough. Doors open at 8.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY,
at 2.30. Doors open 1 o'clock. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D'Albertson.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina Pastor; Mdlles. Saracco, Marco, Tiargate, and Verga, and Signor De Vincenti. Varieties by BRUCE and RIVIERE, the Sisters Rogardo, Miss Annie Wilson, Marcelle's Boarhounds and the Dog "Rags," the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe, the Arabian Whirlwigs, Sherman and Morissey, Mart Lloyd, George English, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.45 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 7.50. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.30, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. Katti Lanner. Music by M. Leopold Wenzel. Mdlles. Palladino and Bettina de Sortis, Signor Cormani, Signorina Malvina Cavalieri. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. Savile Clarke, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—G. H. Mogleston, the popular actor and vocalist; the Kinemito, in a novel musical absurdity; Vortiare, the wonderful Jap; the Bimbellois, American equilibrists; Chirene and Peppy; Abe Daniels, original clown; Dora Belding; Arthur Tinsley; Fanny Leslie, the mysterious mimic; Jack Sanderson, Annie Rowland, Jane Rochford, Percy Haggerty, Coke Ady and Pepper; Albert and Robinson Troupe; the Rippingtons; James Fawn, comic; the Kinetograph, the latest Edison-music hall appearance in the variety halls of Most Isaac Cuard, the famous opera bouffe soprano; Morgan Grampian.
EVENINGS at 7.30; SATURDAY MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to 2s.6d.

A YOUNG MAN IN A HURRY?

What we are witnessing in Berlin is nothing less than the birth of a New Era. The first Act in the great Drama which the German people has been playing through the century is over. The second Act is now to begin. With the natural tendency of mankind, it is the personal aspect in the German crisis that for the moment overshadows all other interests. And in this case there is enough in all conscience—in the strong character of the main actors, in the piquancy of their relations, in the dramatic turn of events—to justify such personal preoccupation. Nevertheless, if one tries to wring the heart out of the present crisis, if one wishes even to view the personal aspects of it in true perspective, it is, we think, the political rather than the personal—the general tendency rather than particular incidents, which should first attract our attention. The personal element counts for no less in human affairs now than it has always done; but neither does it count for more. Great personalities are something, but they are not everything. If it had not been for Prince Bismarck, people say, there would have been no German Empire. If it were not for the impetuousness of the young Emperor, they add, Prince Bismarck's star would still be in the ascendant. One may quote of Prince Bismarck what Mr. Chamberlain in an inspired moment said of Mr. Gladstone:—

> I sometimes think that great men are like great mountains, and that we do not appreciate their magnitude while we are still close to them. You have to go to a distance to see which peak it is that towers above its fellows.

But that is only half the truth. The great peaks have a way sometimes, of dwarfing and obscuring the minor ranges by which nevertheless they mount to eminence. Or, dropping metaphor, we are too apt in magnifying great personalities to forget the underlying forces by means of which they act. The Rise and Fall of Prince Bismarck alike have been due to such forces. He rose by controlling and directing the force which made for the unification of Germany as a great military State. He has fallen because he has defied the force which is making for the development of the popular elements in the constitution of the country. What Bacon said of physical science is no less true of political: to control the forces of nature you must obey them.

The movement in German minds which has led first to the rise and then to the fall of Prince Bismarck began with the Liberals of '48, and had two sides. The first leant towards the unification of Germany as a nation; the second towards the development of it as a free nation. For a time the second element was subservient and contributory to the first. To abolish the petty tyrannies of the little Princes: to sink provincial and personal loyalties in the wider enthusiasm for the Fatherland: these were the earliest objects of the German Liberals. That was the first Era, and Prince Bismarck was the Man. The second Era begins with the completion and consolidation of his work. When—and if—Germany is firmly planted as a State—strong enough to have no fear from foes on east or west, then the Era of political development becomes possible. The internal security of the State—by basing it broader on the people's will, by giving wider freedom of speech and thought, by alleviating economic evils—is the work of this second stage in the history of Germany, as of other States. This is the second Era; and the Emperor William II. aspires to be the Man.

Will he succeed? Nobody can say; but every Liberal throughout the world—using Liberal in the broadest sense of the term—will wish him well. The barometer of speculation goes up and down meanwhile, according as one looks at the extraordinary ability and energy which the Emperor has shown in so short a time, or at the extreme difficulties and dangers of the task he has in hand. Has he truly judged the times and seasons? Is the old Era really ended? and is the country ripe for the new? The policy of blood and iron was absolutely necessary for the consolidation of Germany. By the sheer necessities of her geographical position, the German nation—if a nation it was to remain—had to be drilled, not merely to act as one man, but to stand as the strong man armed. Is all danger of particularism and separatism so completely gone that the military régime of repression can be safely relaxed? And, on the other hand, has the young Emperor the necessary patience and tact to keep the peace, as Prince Bismarck has kept it in the face of many temptations and opportunities for war? Such are the questions which inevitably occur as the New Era dawns. They are being asked in all the capitals of Europe to-day, and they will continue to be asked until answered by events. For events only can show whether the time for the New Era has indeed fully come, or whether it has been prematurely hastened by a "Young Man in a Hurry."

OUR KITH AND KIN.

How would American History have gone?

Somebody grubbing among the Canadian State papers in the buildings of the Dominion Parliament has come upon letters which amount to an important historical discovery. It seems that at that eventful period in our colonial history when Cornwallis was beleaguered at York Town by French and American armies and a French fleet, just before the capitulation which struck the death blow of the English cause in the United States, Vermont, the Union State which bordered the Canadian frontier, was on the very point of joining Canada.

The Fever Fiend Oversea.

Our kith and kin both in Melbourne and Johannesburg are struggling with a more deadly foe than the influenza. From both places comes the cry that typhoid fever is rampant. In the Victorian capital the sanitary authorities are grappling with an alleged lack of hospital accommodation. From the City of Gold, which has grown up so utterly without sanitation that it stands even more in danger of a pestilence than of a "crash," a lively young Englishwoman, who has recently made her home there, draws the following picture of the situation which culminated in the late riot:—

A Melancholy Picture.

"Typhoid and typhus are raging, and last week forty-two people died of the two fevers in one day. The hospitals are badly overcrowded. The lack of business is so great that people are actually starving. Last week a friend was seventy-two hours without a mouthful, not having a penny in his pocket, and too proud to beg. You know the mule-waggons used for transport. Last Wednesday their owners filled six of them up with boards for seats and an awning over the top, and they went down full to Kimberley of young men who could get neither work nor food up here—gentlemen all of them. They were taken down for £2 a head. Fancy spending three weeks like that!"

The Truth about the Colonial Hobbledehoy.

It would be a great mistake to suppose that the unflattering portrait of the Melbourne "larrikin" which G.A.S. has been giving in "Echoes of the Week" represents a general type of colonial humanity. It stands to reason that, human nature being what it is, a certain small proportion of young Melbourne tradesmen will turn the abundant leisure they enjoy to bad account. But then 95 per cent. of them utilise their "eight hours' recreation" to the best advantage, as a visit to the Working Men's College, or any of the numerous libraries and class-rooms all over Melbourne, will abundantly prove. The Melbourne Working Men's College had 2,269 students on its roll at the end of 1889. Only twelve female students attended its first term; now there are 409.

The Larrikin as an Import from the Mother Country.

The rude young man is perhaps as often a recent import as a home product. It is natural that in the first reaction from the under-strapping conditions to which he was used in England, the young fellow with higher wages and larger elbow-room than he ever had before should for awhile mistake "cheek" for manly independence. In South Africa, for instance, the traveller accustomed to the civility and attention of English railways, hotels, tradesmen, and servants, is apt to resent very much a certain air of swaggering indifference—a tone of "I'm as good as you, sir, and very likely a good bit better"—with which even the most inoffensive demeanour is often met. But the offenders are very often, most probably, young men who have come to the colony from England or Scotland, and whose heads are a bit turned by finding their labour no longer a drug in the market.

The Bitter Cry of British Guiana.

The inhabitants of the Crown Colony of British Guiana have addressed a petition to Lord Knutsford, praying for a change in what they describe as their "Dutch-made and non-English form of Constitution." Their present legislative body is a Court of Policy, which is composed of a Governor, four officials, and five so-called elective members. The Governor has a double vote, and therefore with his four officials he is sure of a majority. The complaint of the people of British Guiana is, however, specially addressed to the fact that the five elective members are not really elected at all. They are chosen by a body known as the College of Reizers—or choosers—under conditions which turn their "election" into simple nomination. The contention of the colony is that no interest is represented except the sugar interest, and that the other trade and development of the colony is unjustly paralyzed.

What our Fellow Citizens Ask.

The petitioners therefore pray that the present Constitution may be abolished and that British Guiana may be endowed with an Executive Council and Legislative Assembly. They propose that the Crown should nominate the Council and five members of the Legislative Assembly, and that the colony should be divided into electoral districts, which shall return the other members of the Assembly under a system of voting by ballot similar to that which prevails in the United Kingdom. The colony is practically united in its request for a more liberal Constitution, and we understand that the Government is prepared to grant the principle, if not the detail, of all that has been asked.

THE ROMANCE OF DIAMOND SMUGGLING.—II.

(From our Special Correspondent recently in South Africa.)

The Career of a Stolen Diamond.

Let us follow such a diamond through its career. We will assume that the original thief is a working Kafir. Of course it is sometimes one of the white overseers. A man with a wife and family, working sixteen hours a day, at three or four pounds a week, is approached by a Jew practitioner, who points out to him what safe and easy opportunities he has for making a little competence by stealing from the sorting-tables. But for the most part it is some Kafir, loading a truck or breaking the "blue" on the drying-grounds, who suddenly espies a fine diamond, say of five or ten carats, glittering among its dark surroundings. Warned by native acquisitiveness, or mindful of evil counsels with which some "runner" has primed him for just such an opportunity, our Kafir gives not a word or a sign that might attract the eye of the overseer. There the diamond lies, and if it is on the drying-ground, there, perhaps, he will let it lie, marking the spot against such time as himself or a confederate can come and find it. Or else, seizing a moment when he is not observed, he quietly picks the stone up with his toes, and there holds it until an opportunity occurs of transferring it to his mouth. Once there, in a moment it is swallowed with as much nonchalance as if it were a pill. That done, our Kafir can face with indifference that terrible scrutiny of which something has been said. In this way an industrious thief will sometimes accumulate within the compound a little cache of precious stones, whose hiding-place is known only to himself.

What My Lady's Diamond may have been through.

I have explained how the I.D.B. manages to have his trusted "runner" within the sacred limits of the compound itself. The runner is supplied with money to buy stones; and when he has filled his pouch he will seize some opportunity of escaping to his master, either over the compound wall or on the way to work. Or he will throw a parcel over the wall to a confederate outside. Or our Kafir, we will assume, prefers to sell his diamonds himself. He possesses his soul in patience until his three months are nearly up, then digs up his diamond or diamonds, swallows the lot, and passes gaily out with his goods packed inside him. It is true that a week before his exit he has to spend in a specially constructed room, and under circumstances of surveillance which must at least render it very difficult thus to turn the diamond into a circulating currency. Moreover, if he be at all suspected, it will avail him little to confront the Customs House of the compound with so treacherous a portmanteau as the human form divine. But, you will say, they cannot treat the unhappy native as Baron Munchausen did the fox. They cannot turn him inside out. Not like a stocking, perhaps. That is true. But they can put him (his hands padlocked within certain fingerless leather gloves) into a small and solitary chamber, and there subject him to such *peine fort et dure* as speedily attains its end. By prescriptions of a kind familiar to the faculty, accompanied by such a light and nourishing diet as is adapted to a febrile patient, the treatment proceeds until a satisfactory cure is effected. Valuable additions have in this way been made to the world's wealth in diamonds.

"He's o'er the Border and awa'."

But to quit this phase of what I may term medical jurisprudence for one which is more strictly legal—suppose our diamondiferous Kafir, after all perils passed, safely at large, and ready to dispose of his stolen goods. He is soon in communication with the Middleman, who will, perhaps, after much haggling through a window, give him about a quarter of the stone's value, or perhaps considerably less—so much less indeed in some cases that honesty might have turned a better penny by giving the stone up to the company and getting the small percentage allowed on a find. The next stage is getting the diamond out of the country. Griqualand West is hard upon the borders both of the Free State and the Transvaal. In the Free State—with little or no machinery for enforcing it—there is a very strict diamond law. Just across the Vaal River, however, lies Christiana, where the I.D.B. can cheaply register his ill-got gains to be forwarded for shipment at Port Natal. "No questions asked" is the not very creditable rule

by which both the Republic and the rival colony facilitate thieving from Cape territory. And so the smuggled diamond reaches the London market.

Sometimes, again, parcels are boldly sent through the Cape Town post office, artfully concealed by the familiar smuggler's dodges, such as cutting a hole inside a guileless-looking family novel, and filling it with stones. Or some "lady" who is in the swim takes a parcel about her person, smuggles it on shipboard, and carries it to Europe with her. I find that I can myself boast the honour of having once been a fellow-voyager—*Cæsarem vehis*—of a notorious female I.D.B. of this sort. She was—need I say?—a Jewess.

OUTWITTING THE I.D.B.

Against such organization and such cunning, what are the resources of civilization? I ought, perhaps, to exercise a little caution in retailing this part of the strange lore which I gathered from Messrs. Chadwick and Izdebsky (might not Izdebsky, as a detective's name, have come out of a novel?)—the arch-sleuthhounds of Kimberley, who are ever hard upon the footsteps of the diamond smuggler. The native I.D.B. "runner," both within the compound and outside, is met by the "trap runner," also native, employed by the detectives. As the former is a diamond-buyer pretending to be a miner, so the latter is a detective pretending to have diamonds to sell. The great object, however, is to catch our friend the master buyer. This is done by watching his house and "rushing" him red-handed, just after he has bought from a "trap runner" who had palmed himself off as a Kafir from the mines. There is something of the *agent provocateur* about the business; but a man is only "trapped" when he has become a notorious I.D.B., with a very black *dossier* at the detective office. A trap runner, by the way, only gets £3 a month and his keep. A good I.D.B. runner gets £5 a week, drink, a house, and *ad valorem* tips on "business" done. He has, therefore, a better time (till he gets his five, ten, or fifteen years) than the "Government boy," who moreover is only good for one appearance in court, when his face becomes known to the secret fraternity. An informer, however, gets half the value of the property recovered; and when one I.D.B. turns against another, there are rare hauls. These gentry prey on their own kind. I was shown sumptuous brilliants made of bottle-glass which must have made some rascal feel that villany is sometimes its own reward. I saw, too, a bottle-case still bearing the label of a Bayswater chemist which had been the hiding-place of £200 worth of stolen brilliants. It was found lying about where its owner, at some sudden alarm, had chucked it away. It is wonderful what the I.D.B. will do under these circumstances to get rid of the damning gems.

DETECTIVE STORIES.

There is one story of a wild midnight chase across the frontier, pursuer and pursued on horseback, when the latter was seen to put his hand up and struggle in the saddle a moment. It turned out that he had thus swallowed while on the gallop not only 32 carats of diamonds, but also the lead-foil box which contained them! In another case Mr. Izdebsky or his colleague recovered a bag with £14,000 worth of stones, which the guilty owner disclaimed and tried to throw away. On the whole, whether we chiefly regard the squalid conditions under which it is pursued, the systematic demoralization which it propagates, or the degrading preventive measures to which it compels recourse, we must conclude that the trade of Diamond Smuggling is one of the most disgraceful in the annals of roguery, and that the slightest taint of complicity ought to ostracize a man, however wealthy, from decent society.

My visit to the compound itself interested me as much as anything at Kimberley. It was a Sunday, and the natives were amusing themselves at their own sweet will. The De Beers compound is a spacious enclosure accommodating some two thousand natives. Some were lying about in the queerest mixture of European costumes—their Sunday togs. Others sunned themselves in native nakedness. Eager groups were intent on a kind of faro; sovereigns passing freely over the cards, for they are great gamblers. A Shangaan put on his feathers and danced a *pas seul* for my express benefit. A band of Zulus—one splendid young savage among them I well remember—stamped a wild war dance till the sweat poured down their dusky frames, and each man had stamped himself some inches into the ground.

SAVAGERY IN THE COMPOUND.

The rapt expression on the dark faces, now fierce, now smiling, the weird, monotonous chant that rose and fell in time with the dance—the rhythmic gestures of hurling or of stabbing that marked its warlike tenor—all these conspiring sights and sounds seemed to strike some latent chord under the white skin and in the civilized brain that vibrated sympathetically to barbarism. Cockney and Kafir are not so far apart, after all. In fancy, I gathered, these Zulus were smiting the Basutos hip and thigh. A few yards away, quite pacific but terribly discordant, a band of these same Basutos were hopping round and round in a circle, each man blowing a sort of cane penny-whistle. The only trouble the "boys" ever give their handful of guards is when a fight arises in which two tribes begin to join. For they do not forget their nationalities and feuds, and a "headman" sways his tribe within these walls though he be but a fellow-labourer, even as he did in the far-off land from which they tramped to the diamond fields, hundreds of miles, perhaps, with no food but what they carried, leaving the weaklings on the wayside, and themselves crawling into Kimberley—as I myself saw—on a pair of skeleton-legs which it takes months to fatten. It is a good-humoured, schoolboy temperament for the most part. The white master who cuffs one of them in passing is greeted with a merry "Sakubona, baas!" ("Bully for you, sir," or "The top of the morning to your honour") in recognition of the notice taken. They dived for pennies in the swimming-bath like a pack of street Arabs. My little sketches of a figure here and there threw them into a ferment—yells of delighted laughter greeting every portrait, loudest when it was most uncomplimentary. In the hospital I saw a few of them bearing injuries to life and limb with savage fortitude. And I left the compound in a whirl of conflicting thoughts upon that contact of Black and White, of the raw barbarian and the "heir of all the ages," which is so full of lessons for them both.

"THE DEAD SET AT THE COUNTY COUNCIL."

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—All true London Reformers will thank you for your leading article of yesterday on the London County Council. You might have also added a point which must not be lost sight of in metropolitan politics. The only hope the Tories have of reversing their defeat at the next Council elections lies in their ability to make the Council unpopular. This is their main object, and I warn a certain section of Radicals lest they consent to be catspaws. We are not all shopkeepers, or even vestrymen; the majority of London citizens have little to make out of, and nothing to fear, in the great reform programme. Let us support the People's Council in its resolute determination to sweep away abuse and not be deluded by the glamour of false issues raised by monopolists.—Yours, &c.,

C. S. F. M.

BROWNING'S BEST POEMS.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I am thankful that you have acceded to the wish of my friend Mr. Blakeney, of Trinity. We were talking last week about the promised shilling selections, and we agreed that the task of compiling such a book, so as to be thoroughly representative of the poet's work, would be no easy one. "Who is to make the selection?" asked my friend. We knew of no single Browning-lover whom we could trust to be completely impartial. Some like him because he is a Christian poet; others because he is free from all religious dogma and perhaps not even Christian in the orthodox sense. The former would take "Saul," "Easter Day," and "A Death in the Desert" as types of his best poems; the latter would suggest "Caliban," "Bishop Blougram," and "Ixion." Some would choose his love poems, others his psychological dissections. A catholic-minded editor would surely be required. Who is he to be? We agreed that the best solution of the difficulty would be to ask your aid, Sir, and, if possible, induce the compiler to accept the verdict of your poll.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.

Tynemouth House, Victoria Park-gate, March 18. EDWARD BERDOE.

A WHOLESOME FAMILY BEVERAGE.—ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL is entirely free of spirit, and supplies a delicious drink in water, assisting digestion, cooling and purifying the blood. Recommended by the *Lancet*. Purchasers should order ROSE'S CORDIAL, and obtain the Genuine Article.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We do not believe in all this talk about an immediate dissolution. What in the world is there to induce Ministers to dissolve? It was supposed in some quarters that the publication of the Parnell Report would put them in a good position before the country; but the recent by-elections and the revolt of Lord Randolph has pretty conclusively shown up that Unionist delusion. No doubt the position of Ministers just now is not an enviable one—they are weaker than they have been at any time since they assumed office. But why should this fact make them anxious to throw their majority of seventy into the crucible of a general election? No: they will bear the ills they have rather than fly to others they know not of.

It there is nothing in the state of home affairs to encourage the idea of a dissolution, there is everything in the state of foreign affairs to discourage it. It is on this department that Lord Salisbury's affections are set, and it is here that he has been conspicuously successful. The resignation of Prince Bismarck—which, by the way, is quite enough to explain the Prime Minister's visit to Windsor yesterday—will make the Foreign Minister less willing than ever to leave the scene of his first interests and best successes. Prince Bismarck's disappearance is Lord Salisbury's opportunity. Without going so far as a foreign observer who remarked yesterday that Prince Bismarck's resignation leaves Lord Salisbury master of the European situation, we may at any rate say that it makes Lord Salisbury emerge, and conclude that he is very little likely therefore to wantonly jeopardize his tenure of the Foreign Office.

The two by-elections pending in Ireland are both foregone conclusions, but there is no reason why there should not be interesting contests. In East Down the Tory majority in 1886 was 2,532. In West Cavan the Parnellite majority in 1885 was 4,646. We hope the Parnellites will try again in Down; if only to draw the Tories out to try again in Cavan. Mr. Balfour's theory is that the Irish electors would have voted "Unionist" in 1886, if only they had not been under the coercion of Parnellites and Priests. From this tyranny, *his* coercion (he says) is intended to set the electors free. Why, then, should his party still be reluctant to try their fortunes in Irish constituencies?

The "blackleg" has found a judicial champion in the person of that good old Tory, Mr. Justice Grantham. The ex-member for Croydon had a case of intimidation in his assize list at Leeds, and said in his charge to the grand jury that he did not know the merits of the strike, but it seemed that there were a number of men—and he hoped it would always be so—who were not members of the trade union implicated, and who went in and did the work when the union ordered a strike. But is Judge Grantham quite sincere in his liking for the blackleg species? Suppose that the principle be applied to his own profession. He is a lawyer, a member of the strictest trade union in the world. What would he say to any individual who attempted to carry on the profession of law without acting in conformity with the regulations laid down by the combined legal world for his guidance? We fancy that even Mr. Justice Grantham would object to blacklegism there. And while he admits the right of combined lawyerdom to place restrictions upon any individual who comes into the profession, and to lay down rules which all must obey, why does he deny to working men the same right of regulating the conditions of their industry?

Where shall we look for more pathetic reading than this notice, which, over the signature "A Fellow Sufferer," was posted yesterday about the docks at Liverpool?—

Fellow Dock Labourers, what are we doing? 1. Starving our wives and children. 2. Pawning our goods. 3. Giving our permanent jobs to scabs. 4. We are hesitating so long that the scabs are learning our work. 5. Ships are being stopped off the port and sent elsewhere. 6. Our delegates have three good meals a day while we and our families are hungering. 7. About ten ships a day are going to sea; this shows that the scabs are learning our work. 8. Vote by ballot, and not by hand, where we dare not vote contrary to our delegates!

And so forth—a cry wrung from some weaker brother of the strike whose heart is failing him in the strain of hunger and delay. There is no word giving up the justice of the men's case, only the hope of its success. Does not this sad appeal suggest what tremendous pressure there is on the much-abused delegates in a strike to bring it to an end as soon as possible? And does it not remind us of the bitter inequality with which the weapons in the struggle between capital and labour are matched? Poor Capital may have, amid the commiseration of society, to remove his house to some less fashionable quarter. But as for Labour—his is the curse that Ugolino could not bear in the dreadful verse of Dante. He must look upon his starving children.

Mr. Parnell will, we see, give notice on Monday for a Select Committee "To inquire into the history and origin of the Forged Letters." This is very meet, right, and his bounden duty. That the history of the letters should be probed to the bottom has been urged by all parties—and by the Tories even more than by the Liberals. When Mr. Parnell originally asked for a Select Committee, the Tories refused it only on the ground that (1) a libel action and (2) a Special Commission would serve the same purpose. But the judges have stopped all inquiry into the origin of the libels, alike in the Queen's Bench and in the Special Commission. The case for a Select Committee becomes therefore self-evident.

But Mr. Parnell's determination to pursue the matter will not be any the more welcome to the Government because it might have been expected. If they grant a Committee, the Piggottist pot, so to speak, will be kept boiling. If they refuse it, they will be guilty of an obvious act of bad faith. In either case debates in the House are inevitable. The announcement of Mr. Parnell's motion will not, therefore, add to the pleasantness of the Conservative meeting at the Carlton to-day.

Sir John Lubbock, who generally has something to say worth saying, said many interesting things in opening the Free Library at Ravenscourt Park yesterday. He took up his parable again as regards the excessive self-depreciation with which we Londoners are wont to think of municipal London. We scarcely do justice, according to Sir John, to our vestries and other local bodies. Take the public health—we stand as high as fifth among the great towns of England. Take pauperism—even with that unscientific frontier of Poor London, which is unceasingly extended by the gravitation to the capital of poverty from all over the country—even so our own proportion of pauperism is only 21 per 1,000, as against an average of 24 for all England. Take education—we "pass" 92 per cent. of our children as against an average percentage of only 88 for all non-Cockneydom. In free libraries, too, Sir John Lubbock is able to claim that London is doing excellently, as things go. That was an interesting classification, too, which he made of the national account-book: net expenditure, 80 millions; preparations for wars of the future 30; debt mostly incurred in wars of the past, 26; civil government, only 20, of which some 7 000,000 are absorbed by law, police, and the like troubles self-sought by human frailty.

Sir Albert Rollit's Bankruptcy Bill, which passed its second reading yesterday, with the approbation of Mr. Chamberlain, and was referred to the Standing Committee on Trade, is the most drastic attempt that has been made since 1883 to deal with the fraudulent bankrupt. The law with regard to the discharge of bankrupts is made much more stringent, the court being obliged to suspend the discharge for five years if certain offences are proved. Also a bankrupt will no longer be allowed to evade punishment by filing his own petition, or by confessing in his examination misdeeds which could be proved against him without his confession. But the most sweeping clause of all is the following:—

Where it appears to the court that a bankrupt has—(1) Brought on his bankruptcy by rash and hazardous speculation or unjustifiable extravagance in living; (2) given an undue preference to any of his creditors; (3) been guilty of any fraud or fraudulent breach of trust, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour, and on conviction shall be liable to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding twelve calendar months, with or without hard labour.

It is to this penal clause that most objection will be raised, for while it is notorious that bankrupts often deserve penal servitude quite as much as the clerk who embezzles a few pounds, it is a very fine dividing line indeed which with present methods of business separates rash and hazardous from legitimate speculation. At what point will extravagance in living become unjustifiable?

"Is it not time," inquires a correspondent, "that London was better treated in the matter of Liberal candidates? How is London to be Liberalised if all the best men in the party will have nothing to do with metropolitan constituencies? I have personal knowledge of one constituency in which there are excellent prospects of success if only a man of ability as well as means would consent to stand. To its bitter cry for such a candidate a deaf ear is turned, and, unless the election expenses can be subscribed by the rank and file, it seems as if the party will have to put up with a candidate of an inferior calibre. The raising of an election fund would probably divert from the winning of the seat an amount of organization that would have secured that consummation. In these circumstances—which prevail in other divisions beside the one I have more particularly in view—is it not very regrettable that such powerful candidates as Mr. Leveson Gower and Mr. Routledge should desert the metropolis for such seats as Stoke and Ayr? Considering the great reduction they had effected in the Tory majorities of North Paddington and East Marylebone, both gentlemen had good hopes of sitting in the next Parliament as London members. As it is, by their haste in gaining admission to St. Stephen's they compel these constituencies to find fresh candidates, and practically begin the battle afresh."

*"FABIAN ESSAYS."**

THIS substantial volume of essays, well printed on good paper, is a distinctly new departure in the way of pamphleteering. A number of persons, with approximately the same views on the subject of Socialism, have collaborated to produce a sort of enlarged manifesto and defence of Socialist aims. The scheme of essays was arranged beforehand by discussion among the Fabians who were to contribute, and then to each was left the duty of completing, in the way which seemed best to him, his portion of the common work. We thus find in the very inception of this book that combination of individual freedom with communal control which is the goal aimed at by Fabian Socialism.

The first of the series of essays, due to Mr. Bernard Shaw, deals with the economic basis of Socialism. His analysis begins with an extremely bright description of the theoretical origin and growth of rent. We are shown first of all the virgin soil waiting for the advent of man—"the original Adam, developed by centuries of civilization into an Adam Smith." Adam begins at once, according to the theory, to prospect for a patch of private property, and there drives in his stockade. Other Adams arrive, and Cains and Abels too, till at length all the best ground is occupied. Then arises Rent, and the idle landlord appears on the scene. Gradually, the whole available surface of the earth is taken up, and then appears the Proletarian, the landless man. "Private property had forgotten this man. On the roads he is a vagrant; off them he is a trespasser." The occupier of land can live because he has something to sell, but this man has nothing to sell—except himself. But driven by an irresistible impulse, the proletarian continues to increase and multiply, "until, by excess of supply over demand, his exchange value disappears altogether, until even black chattel slaves are released as not worth keeping in a land where men of all colours are to be had for nothing. This is the condition of our English labourers to-day: they are no longer even dirt-cheap; they are valueless. This is proved by the existence of the unemployed, who can find no purchasers at any price."

The historic justification of Socialism is dealt with by Mr. Sidney Webb, who enumerates an immense number of services now performed by public bodies, and infers from these, and from the numerous restrictions on labour and capital enacted during the present century, that England is already on the high road to Socialism. Probably Mr. Webb exaggerates the importance of these signs. The organization of public services by the Government and by the municipalities has so far been undertaken on purely competitive lines, without any conscious desire to benefit thereby the great mass of wage-workers. The biggest instance at present of State enterprise is the Post Office, which pays its employés the lowest possible wage, and is bent above all things on making a profit for the benefit of income-tax payers. It is a far cry from this to a Socialistic State, in which private property in the instruments of production is no longer to be recognized.

The next essay is on the Industrial aspect of Socialism, by Mr. William Clarke. Mr. Clarke's main thesis is that the growth of joint-stock companies, followed by the amalgamation of different companies into rings and trusts, is leading us inevitably to State Socialism. Not only does this consolidation of businesses make it easier for the State to take over whole industries, but it teaches the people how useless the private capitalist has become. He no longer directs a business—he merely draws his dividends. It is impossible to avoid the temptation of quoting one excellent illustration that Mr. Clarke gives of the way in which rings are worked in the United States:—

A steel rail combination was some years ago formed among previously competing firms. This combination discovered that too many rails were being made. Accordingly one of the mills in the combination—the Vulcan mill—was closed, and stood smokeless for years; its owners meanwhile receiving a subsidy of 400,000 a year from the other mills in the combination, for not making rails. This is how the owners of the Vulcan mill earned their "wages of superintendence."

By the way, Mr. Clarke, while giving a useful and accurate summary of English factory legislation, makes the mistake of saying that labour in India is entirely unregulated by law. We may refer him to the Indian Act No. XV., of 1887.

We have no space to summarize the remaining essays, but the whole book deserves reading as a thoughtful and interesting contribution to current discussions.

* "Fabian Essays in Socialism." By Bernard Shaw, Sidney Webb, William Clarke, Sydney Olivier, Annie Besant, Graham Wallas, and Hubert Bland. London: The Fabian Society, 62, Fleet-street.

"MY CAT, PETER."

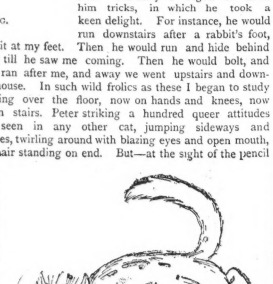
A Chat with Mr. Louis Wain.

THOUSANDS of us have laughed at Mr. Wain's comic cats which have appeared from time to time in the illustrated papers. And yet until Mr. Wain appeared on the scene it was always a matter of grave doubt whether a cat had a laugh in him. The fact is the cat has generally been regarded as one of those animals which never could see a joke, and so long has this unkind tradition been handed down to us that the saying "Funny enough to make a cat laugh" has come to be the standing description of a joke that is uncommonly apparent to the lowest understanding. It was reserved for Mr. Wain to place the cat in his true position as an appreciator of humour in himself and others. The cat who has a sense of humour is probably a cynic, and is also easily touched by the pathos of life. Mr. Wain has from time to time transferred those various emotions of cat life to paper, touching by turns the wildly irresponsible farcical comedy, the homely domestic drama, or the stirring tragedy of catdom. The other day I met Mr. Wain (writes a representative), and asked him plainly and plumply why he had taken to cats :—

PETER'S FIRST INTRODUCTION TO THE WORLD. HE GAINS HIS EYESIGHT.

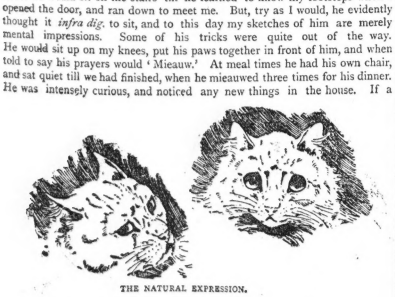
"Well," replied he, "to tell you the truth, I owe all my success as a cat-artist to my cat 'Peter.' You would like to hear his history; it is brief; you shall: Some years ago Peter was a black-and-white kitten with an inordinate love for mouse-hunting. I had him when he had just gained his eyesight, and the second day in his new home he brought a half-dead young mouse who had held on so tight to Peter's nose that it bled. Peter was so plucky that I took a fancy to him, for he declined to part with the mouse, and marched up and down the house with his tail bolt upright in the air till the mouse was killed for him. He had the run of the house, and strength coming apace with courage he soon learnt to kill his mice himself, and these he always brought upstairs and laid at my feet. I began to pet him a great deal, and he would come and sit on my drawing table for hours together and watch my pen and brush, but the instant I attempted to sketch him he disappeared under the table and sat at my feet. Presently I began to teach him tricks, in which he took a keen delight. For instance, he would run downstairs after a rabbit's foot, and bring it up and lay it at my feet. Then he would run and hide behind the door and peep round till he saw me coming. Then he would bolt, and I ran after him and he ran after me, and away we went upstairs and down-stairs, and all over the house. In such wild frolics as these I began to study him. Imagine me rolling over the floor, now on hands and knees, now crouching up and down stairs. Peter striking a hundred queer attitudes which I have never seen in any other cat, jumping sideways and round on the tip of his toes, twirling around with blazing eyes and open mouth, his whiskers up and his hair standing on end. But—at the sight of the pencil or the sketch-book on the ground he relapsed into sulks and lay down on the hearth-rug. So that practically the only sketch I ever made of him was while his back was turned from me, a back view, and yet he was the best model I could have had. All his movements were spontaneous, he fired my imagination, and I had only to romp madly with him for a few moments to get any amount of ideas. Thus I gradually got a cat engraved on my imagination, and his little ways became accentuated.

PETER PRAYING.

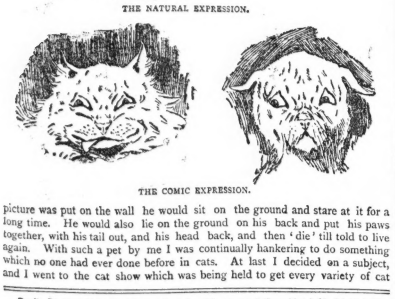


PETER PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK.

"Peter attached himself to me to such an extent that if I moved from the house he would sit on the stairs till he learned to know my footsteps when I opened the door, and ran down to meet me. But, try as I would, he evidently thought it *infra dig.* to sit, and to this day my sketches of him are merely mental impressions. Some of his tricks were quite out of the way. He would sit up on my knees, put his paws together in front of him, and when told to say his prayers would 'Mieauw.' At meal times he had his own chair, and sat quiet till we had finished, when he mieauwed three times for his dinner. He was intensely curious, and noticed any new things in the house. If a picture was put on the wall he would sit on the ground and stare at it for a long time. He would also lie on the ground on his back and put his paws together, with his tail out, and his head back, and then 'die' till told to live again. With such a pet by me I was continually hankering to do something which no one had ever done before in cats. At last I decided on a subject, and I went to the cat show which was being held to get every variety of cat I could, and with 'Peter's' help produced 'The Cats' Christmas Party, which was accepted by Mr. Ingram, and appeared in the *Illustrated London News* three years ago. Its success was extraordinary, and that was how I came to draw cats. You ask me if I think a cat is capable of affection and sympathy. His mistress was bedridden, and suffered intensely. At first Peter only looked on and wondered, but at last he would not move from her bed, and sat by her side from morning till night. Or he would lie on her arm, the warmth and electricity of his body giving her the only respite from pain she ever had. All the play went out of him, and he became a staid and mournful cat till the end came, when he again took his place at the top of my drawing-board, but much older in his ways and more solemn."



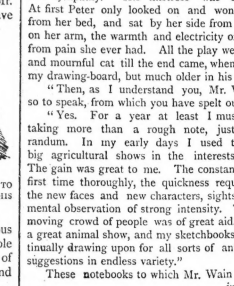
THE NATURAL EXPRESSION.



THE COMIC EXPRESSION.

"Then, as I understand you, Mr. Wain, 'Peter' was your cat alphabet, so to speak, from which you have spelt out your pictures?"

"Yes. For a year at least I must have studied him mentally, without taking more than a rough note, just as you might take a memorandum. In my early days I used to go about the country to all the big agricultural shows in the interests of the *Sporting and Dramatic*. The gain was great to me. The constant change, seeing my country for the first time thoroughly, the quickness required, the ever-changing impressions, the new faces and new characters, sights, and scenes, developed a power of mental observation of strong intensity. The power of drawing in a constantly moving crowd of people was of great aid. I have scarcely ever since missed a great animal show, and my sketchbooks are a storehouse, which I am continually drawing upon for all sorts of animal subjects, quaint positions and suggestions in endless variety."



SHOWING HOW THE ANATOMY OF THE CAT'S HEAD CONFORMS TO A SERIES OF CIRCULAR FIGURES.

These notebooks to which Mr. Wain referred are certainly remarkable, judging from a couple of specimens I saw. They are full of notes and studies of cats, dogs, horses, and poultry, making a most encyclopædic record. In the course of a further conversation Mr. Wain said that the round-faced animals, such as cats, bull-dogs, and pugs, lent themselves naturally to the human expression, though pigs and babies should not be omitted, and both pigs and babies have that roundness which the artist insists is necessary for his purpose. Mr. Wain has studied babies closely, and declares that he sees in them all the passions of the grown-up human. At present he is studying owls—here again you have the round face—so presently we shall see that sage bird in a variety of attitudes.

COTTON-SPINNING AND BIMETALLISM.

A RECENT Note in the *Pall Mall Gazette* on the present position of the cotton-spinning trade has called forth some criticism from Manchester correspondents. In the Note in question a list of fourteen cotton-spinning mills actually in course of erection in the North of England was given as evidence of considerable development, and a further list of 10 per cent. dividends paid for the last quarter of the year it was held did not "indicate a state of trade such as bimetallists would make the country believe." "Lancashire" writes:—

I will not presume to ask for space in your columns to argue the effects of monometallism and bimetallism on the cotton trade, but I desire, with your permission, to remove the misconception which your correspondent's figures might convey to those not in possession of the facts. Amongst the fourteen new mills he names the Osborne, and puts it down at 42,000 spindles. Now, this is only to replace a mill burnt down of about 27,000 spindles, so the net increase is only 15,000 spindles. Again, he names Messrs. Ashton Brothers and Co.'s new mill, 50,000 spindles, whereas this is simply a case of old machinery being taken out and replaced by new. Therefore, his total increase becomes reduced to 932,000. I believe that to get at the exact balance of increase other considerable deductions should be made for spindles stopped as obsolete, but I will accept the figure 932,000. Now, this really represents two years' increase—1889 and 1890. Some of the mills named were completed last year, and others will only be completed towards the close of this year, so that the average increase of the two years is 466,000 spindles, which is very unsatisfactory compared with the period when the currency difficulty had not arisen. From 1849 to 1861 the average yearly increase was 800,000 spindles, and from 1861 to 1870 the yearly increase averaged 900,000 spindles per annum; while from 1870 to 1889, during which period these currency difficulties arose, the average increase has only been 340,000 spindles, or considerably less than half the previous twenty years. Now, as to dividend, the 10 per cent. named was certainly paid for the last three months of 1889 by the mills specified, but there are eighty-eight mills in the Oldham district, and the average dividends paid for the whole of the year 1889 was only 3¼ per cent., while the average for the five years (1885 to 1889 inclusive) was only 5¼ per cent., and some of the mills have still an adverse balance to wipe off. It is quite true that during last year, especially at the close, Oldham mills were doing fairly well, but a change to the worse has since come, and the market price of Oldham mill shares are, all round, down 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. since the 1st of January this year. The above refers to spinning only. With regard to manufacturing, the trade has not been so bad for years as it is at present. Mr. James Jardine, chairman of the Manchester Royal Exchange, one of our largest and ablest spinners, in the course of a speech this week, after alluding to the improvement in some trades in 1889, said that on the other hand our staple trade (cotton) had proved disappointing, and amongst the causes of its unsatisfactory position he said no doubt the difficulties of the currency question had much to do with it.

"Manufacturer" informs us that he should not so persistently read his *Pall Mall Gazette* were it not that he believes "its object to be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." But the Note in question is, in his opinion, "an apple off another tree." He writes :—

Your correspondent says a considerable development of spinning as distinct from weaving is going on. But why distinct from weaving? Is it that there are thousands of looms standing idle at this moment, because so standing there is less loss to owners than if they were working? What would be thought of any man writing on agriculture if he were to say :—"As distinct from unlet farms which nobody will take, farmers and labourers are having a good time"? Your correspondent gives a list of spinning companies earning good dividends for the past three months. But why does he not give the previous fifteen quarterly stocktakings? One swallow does not make a summer. Assuming, but without vouching for, his figures being correct, I will supplement them as follows :—

Company.	Spindles.	Profit.	Divid'nd p. Cent.	Paid up per Share.	Shares at a Premium.	Shares at a Discount.
Shaw	75,000	£1,505	10	£3 10 0	—	7/0 to 8/0
Thornham	80,000	1,580	10	5 5 0	2/0 to 3/0	—
Crawford	157,000	4,998	10	2 0 0	3/0 to 4/0	—
Ashworth	76,000	2,641	15	2 10 0	2/3 to 3/3	—
Gladstone	84,588	1,963	10	3 10 0	—	31/6 to 32/6
Commercial	62,894	1,256	—	3 0 0	—	28/0 to 29/0
Star	103,536	1,890	10	3 10 0	9/6 to 10/6	—
Woodstock	81,876	608	—	4 10 0	—	38/0 to 39/0
Higginshaw	91,600	905	10	2 0 0	—	18/6 to 19/6
Duchess	73,012	1,543	10	2 10 0	5/6 to 6/6	—
North Moor	76,596	1,440	10	5 0 0	—	8/6 to 9/6

With these figures before them your readers may ask how comes it that London and North Western Railway stock stands at 176 with a much smaller dividend per annum, and these cotton-mill shares can be had so cheap. There can only be one answer, namely, confidence in railways and want of confidence in cotton mills. People on the spot know the facts, and being quickwitted, invest or refrain according to circumstances. A well-known cotton-spinner, desiring to retire from business, recently offered a cotton mill for sale, which, with its appurtenances, cost £90,000, and the best bid he had was £35,000. I enclose the name and address of the owner for your own information. This is a typical case. Hundreds of millowners want to get out of the cotton trade and cannot do it.

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

HODGETTS, EDITH M. S. "Tales and Legends from the Land of the Tzar." (Griffith, Farran, and Co.)
[A collection of stories translated from the Russian. Cloth. Pp. x., 324.]

SCOTT, BENJAMIN, F.R.A.S. "A State Iniquity: Its Rise, Extension, and Overthrow." (Kegan Paul, Trübner, and Co.)
[A history of State-regulated vice. Cloth. Pp. xii., 402.]

Publishers' Announcements.

SWAN SONNENSCHEIN AND CO.

THOMAS DE QUINCEY: UNCOLLECTED WRITINGS OF. Two Vols., each of 350 pages, with Portrait, 12s. [*March 28.*]
Mr. Hogg, who was intimately associated with De Quincey from the beginning of 1850 until his death in December, 1859, has here collected together a considerable number of his writings, originally contributed to various magazines, none of which has hitherto appeared in any English edition of De Quincey's Complete Works. Every piece is duly authenticated, and in an interesting Preface the Editor gives the evidence which establishes its authorship. As a recent reviewer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* observes :—"There are many differences of opinion as to the works of De Quincey that will live. Those who would narrow the list have, we think, a very inadequate notion of their worth. As a master of style alone he is entitled to rank among the 'Immortals.' It is true that nearly all the products of his pen appeared originally in the pages of serials; but there were giants among magazine contributors in those days, and De Quincey was one of them."

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GREAT SNOWFALL IN SWITZERLAND.

Immense quantities of snow have fallen in the Valais, and communications have been interrupted. Everywhere great anxiety is felt. At the well-known mountain village of Saas Grund avalanches are momentarily feared. The peasants think of abandoning their homes.

ENGLISHMEN ON TRIAL AT MIDDELBURG.

The trial of the Englishmen, Phillips and Hoare, for stealing a diamond pin and a purse containing bank notes from the pockets of passengers on board the mail steamer to Flushing, was continued at Middelburg yesterday upon a second charge. The prisoners denied the charges against them, and said they were strangers to one another. The judgment of the court will be given on April 1.

WHY MR. GLADSTONE DOES NOT GO TO IRELAND.

Mr. Gladstone, replying to a Belfast correspondent who forwarded him a copy of the correspondence, published in a local paper, relative to a lecture delivered by the Rev. Mr. Kerr, a Home Rule Presbyterian clergyman, says:—"I am sorry to hear of the boycotting of the Rev. Mr. Kerr. Our opponents practise, without any justifying cause, what they condemn severely in the Irish people when they do the same thing under the pressure of the utmost necessity. My reason for refraining from a visit to Ireland is that my going there might tend to exasperate our opponents in the North, whose severance on the Irish question from most of their fellow-countrymen—as well as from their own ancestors—is, perhaps, the greatest Irish misfortune of the present day."

THE KING OF DAHOMEY'S EUROPEAN CAPTIVES.

The *Temps* has received a telegram from its correspondent at Kotonou describing the condition of the European captives as most deplorable. The German Consul at Whydah, who came to Lagos last Sunday to concert with his colleague of that place, declared that on the 26th of February he saw the Europeans who were made prisoners at Whydah on the road leading to Abomey. They were barebacked, barefooted, with chains on their legs, and were being cruelly illtreated by their escort. The prisoners were nine in number, seven Frenchmen, one Swiss, and one Dutch missionary. The French Consul, who was among them, had tried to commit suicide. The Dutch missionary was set free after a few days' captivity, and has now returned to Whydah. The Germans at Whydah have not been molested.

A FIRE CAUSED BY RATS.

A fire broke out this morning at the shop of Mr. Bracher, grocer, Caterham, but was extinguished before any great damage was done. The place is infested with rats, and during the night they got on a shelf and upset a large bundle of matches, which became ignited and set the shop on fire.

A ROYAL GIFT TO THE ALBERT YACHT CLUB.

The Exchange Telegraph Company is informed that the Queen has given a hundred guinea cup to the Royal Albert Yacht Club, to be raced for this season.

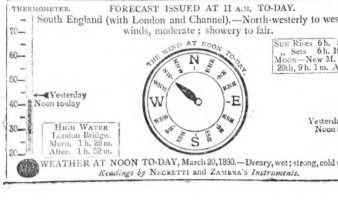
NO RUSSIAN TROOPS ON THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

A Reuter's telegram from St. Petersburg says:—There is no foundation whatever for the report published by an Austrian news paper of an alleged con centration of Russian troops on the Afghan frontier.

Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., entertained Mr. Gladstone and a number of other members of Parliament at dinner last evening at 143, Piccadilly.

Mr. Chaplin, M.P., and Major-General Sir George Harman arrived at Windsor Castle shortly after seven o'clock last evening on a visit to the Queen, and were included in the Royal dinner party.

The youthful son of Lord and Lady Houghton, the Hon. Richard Milnes, continues seriously ill at Fryston Hall, the family seat in Yorkshire. His condition causes the gravest anxiety to his parents and relatives.


THERMOMETER.
FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY.
BAROMETER
South England (with London and Channel).—North-westerly to westerly winds, moderate; showery to fair.
Sun Rises 6h. 5m.
Sets 6h. 10 m.
Moon—New 3l. 9h. 20m, h. m. After.
THE WIND AT NOON TO-DAY.
Yesterday Noon to-day
Yesterday Noon to-day
High Water London Bridge. Morn. 1 h. 56 m. After. 1 h. 52 m.
WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 20, 1890.—Dreary, wet; strong, cold wind.
Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S Instruments.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE RECENT DISTURBANCES AT JOHANNESBURG.

INDIGNATION ADDRESS FROM THE BOERS.

A Reuter's telegram from Pretoria this morning says President Kruger has returned there from the Blignauts Pont Conference. Large crowds assembled on his arrival, and welcomed him with unusual enthusiasm. A numerously signed address was presented declaring that the burghers deeply felt the insults offered to their President and to the national flag at Johannesburg, and trusting that stringent steps would be taken to punish the evildoers. If infliction of punishment by arms were necessary, the burghers, continued the address, required only one word from the President and they would be ready to rise in a body to avenge the insult. President Kruger, in reply, cautioned the signatories of the address not to condemn all the inhabitants of Johannesburg on account of the action of a few drunken rowdies, and expressed the belief that the majority of the people of that place were friendly to the Republic.

THE CONFERENCE AT THE CARLTON CLUB.

The conference of the Conservative members of both Houses of Parliament at the Carlton Club opened at noon to-day.

Mr. R. G. Webster, Mr. Lees Knowles, Mr. F. B. Grotrian, and Mr. J. W. Maclure were the first to arrive. They were followed by Lord Rowton, Colonel Waring, Mr. Smith-Wright, Colonel Blundell, Mr. C. Sykes, Viscount Curzon, Mr. Akers Douglas, Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. John Aird, Sir Thomas Bates, Lord Ravensworth, Lord Weymouth, Lord Grimston, the Earl of Pembroke, Sir J. P. Corry, Mr. T. Milvain, Mr. G. H. Bond, Mr. W. G. Cavendish-Bentinck, Sir A. Rollit, Mr. Sydney Gedge, Mr. T. F. Halsey, Mr. Lafone, Mr. E. Brodie Hoare, Mr. Hozier, Admiral Mayne, Marquis of Granby, Mr. J. M.M'Clean, Mr. H. H. Howorth, Sir John Puleston, Mr. Burdett Coutts, Mr. F. Hardcastle, Mr. R. T. Herman Hodge, Mr. G. C. T. Bartley, Sir R. Temple, Major Rasch, Sir R. Fowler, Mr. R. G. C. Mowbray, General Fraser, Admiral Field, Lord Lathom, General Goldsworthy, Viscount Cranbourne, Mr. W. Bromley-Devonport, Col. Hughes, Mr. E. Swetenham, Mr. E. S. Norris, Mr. Ashmead Bartlett, Mr. E. T. E. Tomlinson, Captain Howard Vincent, Earl Waldegrave, Mr. F. L. Bristowe, Sir Edward Hamley, Captain Edward Heathcote, Mr. Edward Stanhope, Sir Archibald Campbell, Mr. Forrest Fulton, Captain Selwyn, Mr. C. I. Elton, Q.C., Lord Basing, Mr. T. W. Board, Captain Sir John Colomb, Mr. W. H. Smith, the Duke of Portland, Right Hon. Henry Matthews, Duke of Rutland, Sir Lewis Pelly, Baron H. de Worms, Lord Dunraven, Mr. A. Staveley Hill, Mr. C.W. Gray, Lord George Hamilton, Mr. A. A. Baumann, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, Lord Colville of Culross, Mr. J. Bigwood, Mr. Cowley Lambert, the Marquis of Camarthen, Mr. W. E. Macartney, Mr. C. Whitmore, Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald, Lord Brownlow, Mr. George Wyndham, Mr. Byron Reed, Mr. Ernest Beckett, Mr. C. Jennings, Lord Lewisham, Lord Cranbrook, Mr. Walter Long, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. De Lisle, Mr. J. P. Robertson, Mr. W. Ambrose, Mr. Stewart Wortley, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. H. C. Raikes, Lord Wantage, Sir Guyer Hunter, Sir J. Kennaway, &c. The Marquis of Salisbury arrived at five minutes to twelve o'clock, and as he went up the steps his lordship was recognized by the occupants of a four-horse coach which was driving past at the time, the guard sounding a livening blast upon the coach-horn. Mr. Balfour walked from Carlton House-terrace to the Club through the rain, wearing a heavy overcoat with the collar up round his neck.

Pall Mall was nearly blocked with carriages at one time, and notwithstanding the inclement weather, a considerable crowd loitered in the vicinity of the club, for the purpose of watching the arrival of the Conservative statesmen and the rank and file of the party.

ANOTHER DISASTER AT INDIANAPOLIS.

SEVERAL PERSONS FATALLY INJURED.

Another terrible disaster occurred at Indianapolis to-day. A number of men were employed clearing away the débris of the great fire, when suddenly a portion of the roof of what remained of Bowen and Merrit's building fell with a terrible crash, injuring between fifteen and twenty people, a number of them, it is feared, fatally. The excitement in Indianapolis is intense, as no such calamity has visited the city for years. Another of the injured firemen died to-day. Out of the entire active force of the City Fire Department, which amounted to eighty-six men, twenty-six of them fell with the wall on Tuesday, and the majority of these were killed. The relief fund which was started by President Harrison for the families of the dead firemen already amounts to £1,400.—*Daltiel.*

THE SCHOOL BOOK TRUST.

FURTHER PARTICULARS FROM AMERICA.

A week or two ago we published a telegram from America announcing the projected formation of a school-book "trust." The trade here was sceptical on the subject, and one of the publishers' organs characterized the telegram as "very fine and large." We now learn from Mr. Edward Arnold, of Warwick-square, whose business conections with America keep him well posted up in publishing affairs there, that our information was substantially correct. The four important houses of Messrs. Appleton, Wilson Blakeman and Co., A. S. Barnes, and Van Antwerp Bragg and Co. will probably unite to form one firm in a few weeks' time, and they will subsequently proceed to buy up others. Messrs. Ginn and Co. are not likely to join the trust, and will maintain an independent position.

A CARNIVAL OF SLEIGHING IN NEW YORK.

New York is now enjoying the heaviest snowfall of the season, and a perfect carnival of sleighing is taking place in all the principal streets. Business, however, is impeded to a considerable extent, and serious damage is reported to the telegraph wires.—*Daltiel.*

THE READING OF THE BIBLE IN AMERICAN SCHOOLS.

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has decided that the reading of the Bible in public schools is unconstitutional because it is sectarian, inasmuch as it teaches, among other things, the divinity of Christ and the principle of punishment after death, doctrines which are not held by all religious sects. The court further holds that the place where the Bible should be read is in church and not at school.—*Daltiel.*

SUSPENDED FOR SPLITTING COMMISSIONS.

A member of the New York Stock Exchange has been suspended for a year, on being proved guilty of splitting commissions.—*Daltiel.*

A RAILWAY COLLISION IN AMERICA.

A collision occurred yesterday on the Chicago and North Western Railway near Baraboo, Wisconsin, U.S. One car was telescoped, and five persons seriously injured. Owing to the lack of expert medical attention two of the wounded may not recover. It was some hours before proper attention reached them.

HEAVY FAILURE IN THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

A Daltiel's despatch from New York says:—The dry goods house of John F. Plummer and Company has failed, the liabilities being estimated at over one million dollars. The news has caused a sensation in trade circles.

FIVE MEN BURNT TO DEATH IN A MINE.

A despatch from Hurley, Wisconsin, U.S., says:—A big fire is raging in the Germania Mine, and five men are reported to have been burnt to death.—*Daltiel.*

RISE IN THE PRICE OF AMERICAN COTTON.

A Daltiel's telegram from Montreal reports that the owners of the cotton mills there will shortly advance the price of the finer sorts of cotton 1½ cents per lb.

THE EIGHT HOURS QUESTION.

The North-country engineers at present on strike are beginning to say that if they have to fight long it will be made not for an hour on Saturday, but an eight hours day.

The executive council of the American Federation of Labour has selected the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners as the trade to make the demand for eight hours on May 1.

THE BAR COMMITTEE.

MEND IT OR END IT?

A representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* has been making inquiries concerning the Bar Committee. This body, which is so abundantly abused, contains a great number of Queen's Counsel. These, and some leading juniors, oppose, so their opponents assert, everything which will injure their vested interests; and thus it is uncommonly difficult to bring about any reform whatever. There are some men, however, dubbed Reformers, who are always leading off on the side of reform. This small but valiant band consists of Sir G. Sherston Baker, Q.C., and Messrs. Oswald, Evans, Harrison, Wolsten-Holme, and Shortt; and their friends at the Bar declare that have done much good already. They watched, for instance, the County Court Act while that measure was passing through Parliament, making several valuable suggestions, which were adopted. They improved circuit arrangements, too, by putting a stop to some extent to what is called the one-judge system, which was sending one judge to a whole circuit. The Bar Committee was originally formed at a public meeting called by the Attorney-General of the day in response to a requisition, and the object of the committee was then defined to be to collect and express the opinions of the members of the Bar on matters affecting the profession, and to take such action thereon as might be deemed expedient. But it is widely felt that the Bar Committee has fallen short of its mission, and the writer of this has been at some pains to gather representative opinion as to suggested reforms. The Inns of Court are declared to be exceedingly sleepy and inefficient, "Abolish them altogether," some exclaim; but that is too radical a step for most barristers, who laugh good-naturedly at their shortcomings. That there should be some convenient court for a barrister to appeal to on any question of professional etiquette is generally allowed; and that such a court should carefully watch all Bills passing through Parliament and all orders in Council and all rules of procedure made by the rule committee of the Supreme Court, in order to see that the interests of the Bar are protected, is just as desirable. The Incorporated Law Society, it is said, notwithstanding the odiousness of comparisons, keeps a keen eye on all those matters of interest to solicitors; and the Bar reformers feel that if the Bar Committee would go and do likewise they would be immensely benefited in their profession. The block of barristers at the Law Courts is a crying scandal, and two remedies were more than once suggested to our representative. The first was that two common law judges should be permanently in town. (The other day Lord Justice Fry—not a Queen's Bench man at all—was the sole representative of that division sitting to hear causes!) The other judges should go on circuit. If any one were ill a commissioner could go on circuit, like Mr. Vaughan Williams did a year ago, or Mr. Murphy, Q.C., is at the present time. Another means of doing good on circuit would be the shortening of them by calling upon every borough which has a local court of record to try every case it can in that court, instead of sending it to the assize town. These courts of record have power to try all actions to any amount, both real and personal actions, and if they do not try as many of them do, but revive and do their duties, the work of the judges on circuit would of course be very much less. Causes which are now heard at circuit towns would have been then determined by the local judges of the courts of record, and so the list judges would be easily able to spare two of their number to stay in town. Another vexed question is that of barristers' fees. The Bar Committee and the Incorporated Law Society conferred together once on the matter, and left it just as it stood before. The Bar Committee declared that a junior's fee should bear a certain proportion to that marked upon the brief of the leader, and that such proportion had been settled to be from three-fifths to two-thirds. The counsel of the Incorporated Law Society considered that no rigid rule existed, but that some such proportion was usually obtained. As for the excessive competition at the Bar, our representative was repeatedly told it is inevitable. Unless a man has interest in big companies or firms of solicitors, or unless he has sufficient "gumption" to make—without touting—useful friends, ability seldom commands, although it deserve, succes, Juniors of from twelve to twenty years' standing are frequently to be seen only too glad to become journalist in the old Bohemian days, without the slightest intention of paying the money back. One barrister who told our representative of several painful cases of practical starvation amongst men who had fallen away from their early promise at the 'Varsity, was of opinion that only one out of ten men called to the Bar can make a living out of it. No Bar Committee can remedy such a state of affairs—unless it be by disillusioning youths who rush into the profession impressed with the idea that its paths must be paths of pleasantness and profit.

THE STRIKE IN THE COAL TRADE.

To-day, as usual, will be an off-day on the Coal Exchange, but the result of the conference which is to be held in the afternoon, at the Westminster Palace Hotel, between the colliery owners and the miners' representatives, is anxiously looked forward to, in view of the resumption of business to-morrow. Should the strike continue, the miners in the Durham and South Wales fields, which have so far been unaffected, are expected to be drawn into the dispute, in which case the coal supply of the metropolis might be seriously jeopardized. At present, however, there is no serious cause for alarm, and many of the statements in circulation are grossly exaggerated. The opinion of the trade, in fact, is that the strike will soon terminate, as one firm after another gives way to the demands of the men.

HOW TRADE IS AFFECTED IN NORTH WALES.

There is already great stagnation in trade throughout North Wales, owing to the miners' strike. Every colliery is idle, and, as the coal stocks are very low, the other industries are about to cease work, as they are unable to procure fuel. Notices are to-day given at the iron works and the brick and terra-cotta works that operations will be suspended if the strike continues. It is feared that 20,000 hands will be thrown out of employment at the end of the week.

NORTH WALES PROPRIETORS ARRANGING TERMS.

Our correspondent states that the owners of the following collieries in Flintshire, whose men had gone on strike, have arranged satisfactory terms:—The Elm Colliery (Messrs. George Watkinson), Alynbank and North Leeswood Collieries (Messrs. Parry), New North Leeswood Colliery (Mr. Howard), and the Coedtalon Colliery.

THE LIVERPOOL DOCK STRIKE.

According to the latest despatches from Liverpool, the strike of dock labourers premises to terminate quickly. The carters have all returned to work, the flatmen and coal-heavers have also resumed work, and it is rumoured that unless some understanding was come to by Saturday many of the dock labourers had intimated their intention to go back. Yesterday the imported hands are being increased in number every day. Yesterday the arrivals numbered about 400, and altogether about 14,000 new hands are said to be working at the docks. There were several processions of strikers yesterday, one of them numbering between 20,000 and 40,000 men. They were accompanied by Mr. Cuninghame Graham, M.P., who, however, only spoke for a few minutes, being the victim of a severe cold. Notwithstanding the arrival of police from Manchester, Leeds, and Preston, there is no relaxation in the protection given by the Liverpool police.

ARRIVAL OF LADY ELPHINSTONE.

Among the passengers by the New Zealand Shipping Company's steamer *Rimutaka*, which arrived at Plymouth to-day from Teneriffe, were Lady Elphinstone and her daughter. On the arrival of the ship, the steam launch of the naval commander-in-chief, Admiral Sir Wm. Dowell, K.C.B., proceeded into the Sound and took Lady Elphinstone and party on board for Mount Wise, Devonport, the late General's official residence. Lady Elphinstone, who is stricken with grief, received a very consoling message from the Queen. It appears that General Elphinstone, who had suffered severely from influenza, was advised to seek a warmer climate, and he decided to proceed to Teneriffe, where his daughter had been staying in charge of her aunt. The General, his wife, and daughter left Plymouth in the *Tongariro*, on March 8. There was a fresh south-westerly breeze blowing at the time, with a rather heavy sea running in the Channel. Early in the evening the wind veered round to the north-west, and the *Tongariro* rolled heavily When Ushant light was reported in sight, General Elphinstone came on deck, and stood by the port side of the chart-house talking to Mr Pendarves Vivian, formerly M.P. for the mining division of Cornwall When the ship was rolling to port she gave a sudden lurch, and General Elphinstone, slipping on the wet decks, was thrown violently against the chains underneath the lifeboat, and before he had time to catch hold he overbalanced himself and fell into the water. The *Tongariro* was stopped, and a patent lifebuoy, carrying a light which ignites on striking the water was thrown overboard. Boats were lowered and cruised around the spot for some time, but no trace could be found of the unfortunate General. The occurrence was witnessed not only by Mr. Vivian, but by the fourth officer of the ship, who have sent home full details under cover to the War Office.

The United States gunboat *Despatch*, which grounded, has been got off. It is not much injured.

Mr. Somervell, Conservative, and Mr. E. Routledge, Gladstonian, were nominated to-day for the Ayr Burghs.

THE NEW CHANCELLOR OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

SOME PARTICULARS ABOUT GENERAL VON CAPRIVI.

Up to last night the *Reichsanzeiger* had not announced Prince Bismarck's resignation, though it is understood to have been accepted. Count Herbert, it is also understood, has resigned, as well as Herr von Maybach, the latter of whom, however, was said to have withdrawn his resignation at the Chancellor's request. General von Caprivi is said to have been appointed Prince Bismarck's successor as Chancellor, and Herr von Boetticher President of the Prussian Ministry.

George Leo von Caprivi di Caprera de Montecucoli is descended from an old Italian family, which came to Austria and Germany many centuries ago. He is also a descendant of the celebrated Field Marshal. He is well known in Berlin, where he was born on February 24, 1831, his father being then a member of the Prussian Supreme Court. He went to the Werdersche Gymnasium, where Prince Bismarck was also educated for some time. After passing his final examination there, in 1849, he entered the Emperor Francis' Grenadier Guards, and became second Lieutenant in 1850, First Lieutenant in 1859, Captain on the General Staff in 1861, Company Captain in the 64th Foot in 1864, Major on the General Staff in 1866, Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of the General Staff of the Tenth Army Corps in 1870, Colonel and Head of a Department of the War Ministry in 1872, Major-General in 1877, Commander of a Brigade at Stettin in 1878, and of a Brigade of the Berlin Guards in 1881; Lieutenant-General and Commander of the Thirtieth Division at Metz in 1882. He was appointed Minister of Marine, with the rank of Vice-Admiral, in March, 1883, in succession to General von Stosch.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says he is an excellent administrator and commander, and is known to be a man of very high gifts. A soldier to the core, he will certainly follow the Emperor's instructions for the maintenance of peace and order; but otherwise he is said to be very independent. In appointing him Chancellor, the Emperor has followed the example of Frederick the Great, who once said that a soldier must be at the head of the State, because he alone would know the right moment when to support or supplant diplomacy by force of arms.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* writes :—It was not without grave scruples and self-distrust that General von Caprivi listened to the flattering proposals of the Emperor ; but his Majesty, as it is said, finally decided to have a soldier for his new Chancellor, thinking, as he does, with Frederick the Great, that a general must be the surest conductor of a foreign policy, as knowing best how far he can go with the army behind him.

But, though a soldier of the first order, General von Caprivi, in the opinion of all who know him, is very much more than a soldier; and if personal appearance is to count for anything, he must be a man of great force of character and will, combining in a high degree the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*, blending sagacity with patience, resolution with good humour, and German thoroughness with Southern fire. The new German Chancellor looks a typical Teuton of the largest and most impressive type. He might very well pass for a brother, or even a double, of Prince Bismarck himself, the personal likeness between the two men being most remarkable. In point, indeed, of stature and breadth of shoulders General von Caprivi even has the advantage of the man he is going to succeed, but otherwise he is characterised by the same massive jaw, heavy grey moustache and bushy eyebrows, thick neck, solid, square head, shrewd, penetrating glance, and general air of blood and iron, tempered with the polished suavity of a nineteenth-century statesman.

WHAT THE GERMAN NEWSPAPERS SAY.

A Reuter's telegram from Berlin this morning says :—Although the appointment of General von Caprivi as Prince Bismarck's successor is not yet officially confirmed, the *Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung* chronicles the fact that that General is now mentioned by all the newspapers, as well as in parliamentary circles as the new Imperial Chancellor and President of the Prussian Ministry.

The *National Zeitung*, referring to a remark made by Prince Bismarck in conversation with Signor Boccardo, one of the Italian delegates to the Labour Conference, to the effect that the paths of Italy and Germany would remain the same in future, says that this observation may confidently be applied to foreign policy generally. "In the appointment of a General to the Imperial Chancellorship," proceeds the journal, "there is nothing of a threatening character. England has also had a Premier in the Duke of Wellington. German generals appreciate the precious blessings of peace no less than other Germans in responsible positions. The Emperor has repeatedly expressed himself in favour of a pacific policy."

The *Vossische Zeitung* says :—"The tension has been brought to a climax by the circumstance that the dictatress of the European Continent appear to have been suddenly deprived by the crisis of their axis, since, in the person of Prince Bismarck lay a guarantee for the peace of the world. History will preserve the services rendered by the Prince to the cause of peace, and his contemporaries will not be niggard of their thanks. His successor, however, will be compelled to approach the question of lessening the military burdens in the interest of peace. The nation witnesses the retirement of the powerful statesman with regret, but without anxiety, hoping that a long and happy life may still be vouchsafed to him, in which he may be able to follow the constant progress of the empire."

The *Berliner Tageblatt* discusses General von Caprivi's appointment, and anticipates from the new Chancellor's character thorough and salutary changes. "But," adds that journal, "in one point he will fully enter into Prince Bismarck's inheritance—namely, the moderate and peace-loving traditions of his predecessor's policy."

DEPARTURE OF THE PRINCES FOR GERMANY.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince George of Wales, left London for Germany last night. Their Royal Highnesses travelled by special train to Dover, leaving Charing-Cross at ten minutes past ten. Although the hour arranged for the Princes to leave was not generally known, a number of people assembled at the station to witness their departure. Their Royal Highnesses, who were accompanied by the Marquis of Londonderry and Colonel Paget, were received at Charing-cross by Sir Myles Fenton, the general manager of the South Eastern Railway Company, and Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador, was also present. The special train was under the charge of Mr. M. D. Tyrwhitt, the deputy manager of the company.

LORD SALISBURYS VISIT TO THE CONTINENT.

Lord Salisbury had an audience of the Queen at Windsor Castle yesterday afternoon prior tother Majesty leaving England on Monday for the Continent. He returned to London early in the evening. Lord Salisbury himself will set out for the Continent next week, not returning till the end of April. He is building a house near Cannes, where, when it is completed, he intends to reside by way of change from Chateau Cecil, Dieppe.

SAVAGE SWORD DUEL IN FRANCE.

A duel with swords, arising out of a private quarrel, has been fought between two captains of the Douai garrison. It was decided that hostilities should not cease until one of the combatants was disabled. Five rounds were fought. One of the combatants was successively wounded in the wrist, chest, and shoulder. In the fourth round the other had his sword broken, and in the fifth he was seriously wounded in the neck. In spite of his objections the seconds thereupon put an end to the encounter.—*Dalziel.*

CORRUPTION IN A NEW YORK PRISON.

A Dalziel's telegram from New York says :—Another former deputy sheriff was arrested to-day upon a charge of accepting bribes while acting in his official capacity under the late sheriff of New York. The name of the official arrested is Charles Hebbard, and to-night it is stated that more indictments and arrests will follow immediately. The inquiry is not ended.

MUNIFICENT BEQUEST TO A SCOTCH TOWN.

Mr. Thomas Hope, of New York, a native of Langholm, who died a few days ago, has left the residue of his estate to found a hospital at Langholm for the benefit of aged and infirm persons belonging to the district. The amount is estimated at 400,000 dollars, or over £80,000. Mr. Hope was a merchant of New York. He left Langholm when a boy, seventy years ago, and has only twice revisited his native land.

ALARMING EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN SPAIN.

The inhabitants of the provinces of Malaga and Granada have been much alarmed by several shocks of earthquake, accompanied by the usual rumbling noises. The oscillations, which lasted in some places for four seconds, seemed to travel from north to west. Many houses and public buildings were much shaken and injured at Velez and other small towns that suffered during the famous earthquake of 1884. Great alarm was also felt at Malaga, Nerja, and Antequera, but nobody was injured. The night before the earthquake the weather was rainy, and unusually cold for the season.

The Speaker of the House of Commons and Mrs. Peel will visit Windsor on Saturday by command of the Queen, and dine with her Majesty. They will remain at the Castle for the night.

THE BERLIN LABOUR CONFERENCE.

RESIGNATION OF A SOCIALIST DELEGATE.

Last night at Berlin their Imperial Majesties held a *Défilir-cour* in the Ritter Saal of the Schloss, the Court having put off mourning for the occasion. At this *Défilir-cour*, which is a mixture of an English Levée and Drawing-room,numerous presentations were made, including the delegates to the Labour Conference. Previously, all the French delegates, with the exception of M. Delahaye, were entertained to dinner by Prince Bismarck. Count Herbert Bismarck and Princess Bismarck were present, and one or two functionaries from the Ministry of Commerce. Prince Bismarck, both during and after the dinner, conversed most affably with his guests, especially with M. Jules Simon.

The Exchange Company's telegram from Paris says :—A special telegram received to-day confirms the report of the resignation of M. L. Delahaye, working man delegate, but adds that M. Jules Simon has persuaded him to withdraw. M.Delahaye wanted to extend the regulation hours of labour for children to adults, butthis colleagues refused. Itjis stated that M. Delahaye disagreed with them on many other points, and has decided not to attend the banquet offered by Prince Bismarck or reception by the Emperor.

THE SHOCKING TRAGEDY AT CREWE.

TRIAL OF THE PRISONERS.

At Chester assizes this morning Richard Davies, nineteen, and George Davies, seventeen, were indicted for the murder of their father, Richard Davies, at the village of Hough, near Crewe, on the night of the 25th January. Mr. Justice Wills took his seat at the Crown Court shortly after ten o'clock. The chief-constable (Colonel Hamersley) was able to accede to relatively only a small proportion of the number of applications for tickets of admission, and the court was densely packed. The counsel for the prosecution were Mr. D. A. V. Colt-William and Mr. Roberts. Richard was defended by Mr. Glascodine, and George by Mr. Malcolm Douglas. Both prisoners, who have altered greatly since their committal, pleaded not guilty to the formal indictment.

Mr. R. J. Roberts opened the case for the Crown. The learned counsel entered into a detailed statement as to the circumstances of the family of the prisoners, and of the events of the 25th of January. The deceased, Richard Davies, was a tailor, carrying on business at Crewe, and with a residence at the village of Hough, about four miles distant, where he used to drive on Saturday nights, accompanied by the younger son George. On the evening of the 25th of January a violent quarrel was heard at the shop in Victoria-street, Crewe, and it would be proved that the prisoners purchased powder and gun-caps early the same evening, at about nine o'clock. They were lost sight of late the same night. Richard arrived at Hough, and had been but a few moments at home when George came in and said some one had stopped their father in Crewe lane. The dead body of Mr. Davies was afterwards found lying by the roadside. Richard, early on the Sunday morning, went to Inspector Oldham at Crewe and asked the officer to go with him to the Hough, and Oldham noticed that he was without an overcoat. This was a fact which would hereafter be found to be of importance.

Mr. Roberts now proposed to call the attention of the jury to certain written statements of the two prisoners, but Mr. Douglas raised a formal objection on the ground that at the proper time he should submit that the statements were not evidence, and his lordship upheld the objection.

Mr. Roberts then described the discovery of a missing hatchet at Hough, the finding of blood on the overcoat and boots of Richard, and the fatal character of the wounds inflicted upon Mr. Davies with some sharp instrument

ANOTHER HORRIBLE STORY FROM SIBERIA.

A NUMBER OF POLITICAL SUSPECTS SHOT.

A correspondent from Siberia sends to the *Daily News* a special account of the recent shooting of political suspects at Irkutsk. They were part of the thirty who were sent there last summer in consequence of the Zurich explosions. "It was not long before the thirty suspects found employment in Siberia, and everything went on satisfactorily. Then one day the Governor of Irkutsk received a telegram from the police department at St. Petersburg. He was told that thousands of seditious proclamations had been distributed in various provinces of European Russia, and that there were good reasons for supposing that these proclamations had been printed at Irkutsk ? The Governor was in despair ; he at once ordered a search to be made, and the police did discover a small printing-office. They found at the same time that the revolutionaries had won over several Cossacks of the Baikal to "the holy cause," and that it was these soldiers who, forming the escort of the last gold transport from Irkutsk to St. Petersburg, had taken the proclamations with them, and had delivered them to friends in Moscow.

Those who were most compromised among the thirty were immediately arrested, and have since been punished with hard labour in the mines. The others were summoned to the Governor's house, and told that they would shortly be sent far away to the most distant and wild districts. The unfortunate exiles begged the Governor to let them stay at Irkutsk, which is not a bad town, and women bargained with the rough shores of the Polar Sea ; but they prayed in vain. They then resolved to sell their lives as dearly as possible. They assembled in a house, which they barricaded as well as they could, and it seems that friendly Siberians provided them with arms and ammunition. When the Governor and his soldiers arrived, they were received with a heavy fire, which killed and wounded many, and, as the exiles most stoutly refused to surrender, a fierce fight began ; but it did not last long ; most of the besieged were wounded or killed. The young man supposed to be the ringleader, who had been brought to the lazaretto dangerously wounded, was a short time afterwards taken out to be hanged.

THE CANADIAN MURDER.—DISCHARGE OF MRS. BIRCHALL.

Mrs. Birchall was taken before the Court at Niagara Falls yesterday, and there being no evidence against her she was discharged. The Court Room was crowded with people who had been apprised that the hearing would take place. Mrs. Birchall was dressed in half-mourning, and looked very ill. She was too weak to stand without assistance, and appeared to be suffering from extreme nervous exhaustion. When the court ordered her discharge she burst into tears and buried her face in her handkerchief. She subsequently stated that she had entire faith in her husband's innocence. "It is all a horrible mistake," she said, "and the world will prove it to be so." She will at once proceed to Woodstock, Ontario, where she will be required to appear before the magistrate and give evidence on Thursday.

DEATH OF MR. J. R. HERBERT.

Mr. J. R. Herbert, retired R.A., died on Monday at his house in Kilburn. In his time he held a considerable position in the art world. He died but a month younger than Mr. Gladstone, whose portrait he only recently painted. He was in 1869 elected corresponding member of the Institute of France (Académie des Beaux-Arts), and in the later years of his life he developed the odd habit of speaking English with a strong French accent. Mr. Herbert was born at Maldon, in Essex, and was the son of a Controller of Customs. At sixteen he was sent as a student to the Royal Academy schools, Sir Thomas Lawrence being then President ; and Turner, Constable, Mulready, and Charles Leslie among the most active of the Academicians. On the death of his father, two years Herbert had to turn to portrait-painting for his livelihood, and his earliest exhibited works were portraits. But in 1834 he showed some small subject pictures. In the following years he painted numerous subjects inspired by Byron and by the superficial study of the Italian masters which was then in vogue. Presently he formed a close friendship with Pugin, and under his influence, at the time of the Oxford movement, became a convert to Roman Catholicism. From that time religious art was the staple of his work. In 1840 he was elected R.A. When a number of artists were commissioned to paint the new Houses of Parliament, to Mr. Herbert was assigned the Peers' Robing Room, and this he adorned, during the next eighteen years, with subjects from the Old Testament, including "Illustrations of Justice on the Earth." There was a certain relation between this art and the Preraphaelite work of the time, and the new school always continued to speak with a certain respect of Mr. Herbert, even when his eye began to fail and his pictures to be the feeble echoes of what they had been. His misfortune was that he did not himself recognize the approach of that period of decline. He went on year after year exhibiting in the Academy, though his hand lost its power of straightforwardness and his eye could no longer distinguish among colours. The extraordinary nature of some of his pictures during the early years of the present decade caused a veritable artistic scandal, and the fact that he insisted upon his right to exhibit his full number, always "on the line," was one of the factors in the cry for the reform of the Royal Academy.

Work is to-day resumed after long suspension at the Nantyglo, Brynmawr, and Swansea Tinplate Works, employing 2,000 hands.

Mr. Edward Terry, who is at present travelling in India, dined with the Governor-General, to meet the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, on the 27th ult.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

BANK RATE FOUR PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS QUIET AND DULL.—AMERICANS BETTER.

The directors of the Bank of England, at their meeting this morning, decided to make no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 4 per cent. In the open market quotations are firm. Three months' bank paper is hardly in any quarter taken below 3 per cent., while some brokers ask 3⅝ per cent. Money is still in good demand, and short loans command from 3 to 3¼ per cent. The continued advance in the discount rate is largely due to the unsettled state of affairs in Berlin, and the fall in the rate of exchange, which has now fallen to within a little of the point at which it would be profitable to withdraw gold from this country.

There is little feature of interest on the Stock Exchange, but the tendency of prices is again for the most part in the downward direction. Consols are weak at a further decline of 1-16 to ⅛, but in the Home Railway market there is a rather steadier feeling. A very limited amount of business is transacted in this department, however, and the changes are to a large extent nominal. International Government securities continue to be affected by the unsatisfactory condition of the Berlin market and sales of stock from that centre, and values are again lower, Russian Four per Cents. being quoted nominally 93⅝ *4d.* Argentine and Buenos Ayres currency issues have further fallen, especially the Provincial Cedula issues, on advices of a further rise in the gold premium to 158 per cent. American Railroads are generally higher in response to better New York quotations, but the changes are of small importance. Trunks are dull on the small increase in the traffic, but Mexican Railway issues are steady. South African shares are a trifle steadier.

Elmore's Wire Manufacturing Company (Limited) is formed "to acquire the exclusive British licence to make all kinds of metal wire, ribbon, tape, and rod by the Elmore processes, with the sole right to grant sub-licences for the same; it is formed pursuant to the original intention of the licensing company, which was to have a separate company and capital to carry out the great amount of work the directors were certain would be offered to the wire manufacturing department." The share capital is £200,020 divided into 150,000 ordinary shares of £2 each and 10 founders' shares of £2 each. The present issue is limited to 100,000 ordinary shares, which are offered at £3 per share, being a premium of £1 per share. Half the premium will be carried to a reserve fund ; the remaining half is payable to Elmore's Copper Depositing Company (Limited). The latter company will also receive £75,000 in consideration of purchase money, and will take the founders' shares.

The balance of the unissued capital of the Antafogasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway (Limited)—being £260,000 in shares of £100 each—is now offered to those shareholders on the register on the 11th of March last.

Tenders for the issue of £2,264,734 Queensland Government Three and a Half per Cent. Inscribed Stock must be delivered at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, before two o'clock to-morrow.

The annual fur sales of the Hudson's Bay Company, held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th inst., have produced results which, the *Canadian Gazette* regrets to state, are very unsatisfactory, the average prices realized being fully 25 per cent. below those of last year. Otters declined 20 per cent. ; fishers, 30 ; foxes, 15 ; bear, 25 ; lynx, 30 ; marten, 30 ; and mink, 30 per cent.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a moderate demand. Probable sales 6,000 or 7,000 bales. Futures remain steady and unchanged.

TRAFFICS.—Grand Trunk (main line), £985 *increase* ; Chicago and Grand Trunk), £174 *increase* ; (Detroit section), £163 *increase* ; Louisville and Nashville, 3,525 dols. *increase* ; Norfolk and Western, 2,000 dols. *decrease*.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Higher:* Chatham Ordinary, North Western, Metropolitan, Midland, and North British Preference ½ each. *Decided:* Brighton Deferred ¼, Great Eastern, Sheffield Deferred, and North Eastern ¼ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced :* Greek Monopoly ¼. *Declined:* Buenos Ayres Cedulas I and J 1½, French Three per Cents. and Russian Four per Cents. ⅛, Turkish 1871 ¼, Egyptian Unified and Italian ⅛.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Rises :* Wabash General Mortgage ¾, the Preference ⅛, Milwaukee and Lake Shore ⅛, New York Central, Atlantic and First Mortgage, Northern Pacific Preference, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Union Pacific shares ¼ each, Central Pacific, Ontario shares, Erie shares, and Norfolk and Western Preference ⅛. *Fallen :* Reading shares ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher :* Mexican Ordinary ⅛, and Grand Trunk Third Preference ⅛. *Lower :* Canadian Pacific ⅛, and Grand Trunk Ordinary 1-16.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved :* City and Suburban ⅛, Elmore's Copper and Primitiva Nitrate ⅛, Rio Tinto and Ottoman Bank 1-16. *Receded:* De Beers 3-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Great Western	160½	1½
Consols (2½) Money	95⅝	7	Hull and Barnsley.	37	½
Do. Account	97 1/16	3/16	Lanc. and York. ..	130	1
Do. 1905	99	½	North Western	175½	6
New 2½ per Cents.	104½	⅝	South Western	94½	½
Local Loans 3 per Cs.	102¼	⅝	Manch. and Shef'..	86	8
India 3½ per Cents.	107¼	¼	Do. A	45	¾
Do. 4½ p. c. Rs.	71⅜	½xd	Metro. Consolidated	73½	¾
Egyptian Guar. ..	95½	30	Do. District	30½	30
Isle of England ..	355	8	Midland	140¼	1½
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½ p.c.	111⅜	12	North Brit. Pref..	70¾	⅜
Do. 3 p. c. Stg	103	½	Do. Def.	50½	¾
Birmingham 3½ p. c.	115	17	North Eastern	164½	½
Liverpool 3½ p. c.	112	⅛	North Stafford	110	12
Manchester 4 p. c.	129	8	South Eastern	129	31
			Do. Deferred	102½	3½
COLONIAL SECURITIES.			Taff Vale	77	½
Canada 4 p. c. Reg.	107	9	**FOREIGN RAILWAYS.**		
Canada 3 p. c. Reg.	95½	6½	Canada Pacific....	74	¾
Cape 6 p. c. Gua. Inc	103½	10½	Can. Pacific Shares	82¾	3/4
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inc.	110½	11½	Chic. Mil. and St. P.	70¾	⅜
Mauritius 4 p. c. Inc.	107	8	Denver & R. Grande	18¾	¾
Natal 4 p. c. 1907 ..	103	4	Do. Preference ..	48¾	⅜
N. S. Wales Ins 1883	112	14	Illinois Shares	117½	18½
,, 3½ 1924....	101½	2½	Lake Shore	109¾	10¼
New Zland 4 p.c. Cons.	107½	8	Louis & Nash	89¼	⅜
Queensland 4 p.c. Inc.	102½	3	Miss. Kan. & Tex.	10	⅛
S. Austin. 4 p.c. Reg.	107.	8 xd	N.Y. Central Shares	110½	11
Victoria 4 p.c. of 1885	111⅛	12½	New York Ontario	18	⅛
W. Australia 4 p.c. Ins	101	10	N. W. Erie Shares ..	19½	19½
			Do. Second Mort.	108	⅜
FOREIGN STOCKS.			Norfolk & West. Pref	61½	2¼
Argentn 4½ p.c. 1888	75½	6½	N. Y., P. & O. Is. M	33½	4
,, 3½ p.c. Bonds ..	58⅜	9½	North Pacific Pref.	71	15xd
Do. Cedulas A ..	41	2	Ohio & Mississippi	20¾	1¼
Do. ,, B....	39	40	Pennsylvania Sh...	56⅝	6
Austrian 4 p.c. Gold	93	5	Phil & Read Sh...	20½	⅜
,, Silver..	75	5	Union Pacific Sh..	64	¼
Brazilian 4½ 1883..	86	7	Wabash Preferred..	31¾	2
Do. 1889 (fully pd)	79½	7	Do. Gen. Mort.	50½	1½
Do. ,, (part pd)	13	11 dis	Grand Trunk Ord...	10 9/16	11/16
B. Ayres 6 p.c. 1883	99	100	Do. First Pref. ..	72½	¾
,, Cedulas "I"	53	1	Do. Second Pref.	48¾	9
,, ,, "J"	52	3	Do. Third Pref.	26¾	7½
Bulgarian	93	5	Do. Guaranteed..	76½	7½
Chilian 4½ pc. 1892	102	4	Mexican Ordinary	17½	⅝
Costa Rica A	90	2	Do. First Pref....	12⅜	⅛
,, ,, B.....	87	9	Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	7⅝	⅛
Ecuador, New.....	23¾	4½	Mexican Central ..	12½	5½
Egypt. State Dom.	103¾	4¼	Mexican National	5⅜	6
Do. Unified	83¾	⅞	Lombardo-Venetian	11	⅛
Egypt. Preferred ..	100	⅛	Nitrate Railway ..	15½	16¾
Do. Daira Sanieh	84	½	Tal tal	4½	5¾
French 3 p.c. Rentes	87	⅜	B. Ayres & Rosario	138	62
Do. 4½ p.c. Rentes	104½	⅜	Do. Great Southern	179	84
Greek 5 p.c. Mono.	39¾	30¾	Central Argentine..	135	41
Do. 4 p.c. Mono.	75	½	S. Paulo (Brazil.)	44	6
Hung. Gold Rentes	83	½	**BANKS.**		
Italian	93¾	⅛	Alliance Bank	144½	15½
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888	99	½	City Bank	25	4
Peruvian 5 p.c. 1872	16¾	17	Colonial	50	2
Do. 6 p.c.	19¾	20½	Consolidated Bank	8¾	¼
Portuguese	29¾	⅛	Imperial	19½	20¾
Russian 4 p.c. 1889	93	4	Imperial Ottoman..	11¾	⅛
Spanish 4 p.c.	73 3/16	5/16	London and County	88	90
Turkish, 1865.....	12⅜	4	Lloyds	22	½
Conv. A	20½	40 xd	Lon. and Westmr. ..	70	1
Do. B	23¾	¾xd	London Joint Stock	40½	1½
Do. D	17¾	¼xd	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	39½	7½
4½ p. c. 1871	96½	7	Provincial of Ireland	24	5
5 p. c. Defence ..	102	½	Stand. Bk. of S. A.	55	6
5 p. c. Priority ..	95	7 xd	Union of London ..	41½	2½
Uruguay Unified ..	72¾	⅜	National Discount	11¼	¼
Do. 6 p. c. 1888 ..	85½	9¼	**TRUSTS.**		
Virginia Funded ..	45	6	Pn. & Ct. Gov. DC.	135	8
U.S. 4½ p. c.	105¾	6½	Gov. Sth. Invst. DC	110	14
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	6½	7
Brighton Ordinary	154	6	Stock Conversion...	1½	⅜
Do. A	140½	60½	South African Gold	2	¼
Chatham Ordinary	23	¾	Trns., Ex., & Sec.	6½	⅛
Do. Preference ..	103¾	9¼	**MINING & LAND.**		
Caledonian	125½	3½	Indian Con. Gold	2⅜	2/9
Great Eastern	84¼	¾	Mysore Gold	9 3/16	3/16
Great Northern	121	5	Oregeum Gold	2⅛	⅛
Do. A	101½	2½	Cape Copper	3⅜	⅛
			Namaqua	1⅜	3½
			Mason & Barry....	6¼	⅛
			Rio Tinto	24¾	⅛
			Tharsis	4⅜	⅛
			Montana	1 3/16	5/16
			De Beers	16½	⅛
			Goldenhope Mine ..	1	⅛
			New Jagersfontein.	12½	⅛
			City and Suburban.	5⅜	⅛
			Jumper's Gold	6	⅛
			Jubilee	15½	⅛
			Robinson	3⅜	⅛
			Salisbury	4⅜	⅜
			Sutherland Land ..	3¾	⅜
			S. Afca. Exploratn	19	⅛
			Do. New	1⅝	3/8pm
			G. F. of Sth. Afica	3⅜	4⅛
			Exploring Co.	15	10
			Oceana Land.....	8	⅜
			Southern Land	⅞	1⅛
			Transvaal Land ..	1⅛	3/8pm
			TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE		
			Anglo-American ..	49	61
			Do. Preferred ..	82½	3½
			Brazilian Submarine	103½	⅛
			Direct United States	101½	⅛
			Eastern	14	⅜
			Do. Extension ..	14	⅜
			Globe Trust	8½	⅜
			National Telephone	8½	⅜
			OMNIBUS AND TRAM		
			Lon. Gen. Om.	175	85
			London Road Car ..	5¾	⅜
			London Street	12	⅛
			London Tramways..	103¾	10¾
			North Metropolitan	183½	19
			WATERWORKS.		
			Chelsea Waterwks.	280	5
			East London	211	15
			Grand Junction....	122	6
			Kent	271	6
			Lambeth	294	8
			New River, New ..	360	5
			Sthwrk & Vxhall..	161	5
			Tarapaca	9¾	¼
			West Middlesex ..	260	5
			GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT		
			Gaslight & Coke A.	246	8
			Imp. Continental ..	117	22
			South Metropolitan	280	5
			Do. B	224	8
			Do. C	220	8
			London Electric ..	87½	3½
			Metrpltan Electric	6¾	6
			MISCELLANEOUS.		
			Allsopp's.....	7½	⅜
			Bell's Asbestos	12⅜	⅜
			Guinness and Co...	248½	⅜
			Hotchkiss		½xd
			Maxim-Nordenfelt.	1¾	2¼
			Bryant and May ..	13⅜	⅜
			Eastman's Ord.....	10½	¾xd
			Robinson Copper..	2¾	⅛
			Spratt's Patent	7¾	⅜
			Liverpool Nitrate...	11	15
			Colorado Nitrate ..	3⅜	4
			Primitiva Nitrate...	11¾	⅜
			Rosario	2⅜	3½
			San Pablo	3½	⅜
			San Jorge	6¾	6¾
			San Donato	2¼	3¾
			Tamaragal	2	½
			Salt Union Shares	11	¾xd
			Pam'O. Steam Def.	197	200
			Royal Mail Steam	70	5
			Hudson's Bay	19½	20¾
			Suez Canal.....	91	¾
			E. & W. India Docks	15	13
			Lon. & St. K. Dock	38	4

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office.

THURSDAY MORNING.

An Anak to an Anak succeeds. The new Chancellor, it seems, is a double of the old. The personal likeness between Prince Bismarck and General von Caprivi is, says the *Times* correspondent at Berlin, so remarkable that the one might very well pass for a brother of the other. General von Caprivi is said to have the advantage of Prince Bismarck in stature and bulk. Clearly, therefore, the new Chancellor *will* be able to step into the shoes of his predecessor. Whether the mental capacity of the two men is equally on a par, remains to be seen.

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Next to his close personal resemblance to Prince Bismarck, the most interesting thing about the new Chancellor is his name. Leo von Caprivi di Caprera de Montecucoli—an Italian name, if ever there were one, just as Otto Edward Leopold von Bismarck is German of the German. The parallelism between the unification of Germany and that of Italy is one of the curiosities of modern history. There is something fitting, therefore, in the fact that the founder of German unity should be succeeded in the Chancellorship of the Empire by a man of Italian origin.

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The "Stanley and African Exhibition" at the Victoria Gallery approaches completion. The private view is on Saturday, and the public will be admitted on Monday. Mr. Joseph Thomson has undertaken the burden of the arrangements, and exhibitors have responded cordially. Among these are the King of the Belgians and many well-known travellers, headed by Stanley. The visitor on entering will pass through a traveller's tent, complete with all its appliances. The exhibits are upon the walls, arranged as trophies from different countries, with supplementary cases on the floor. Beginning at the left on entering will be the East Coast, and working his way round the visitor will come to the Congo and the Niger. There are native huts, many weapons, ornaments, musical instruments, gods and godesses; and it is curious to note with regard to the latter that whereas it is a sort of ancestor-worship which prevails on the East Coast, Fetish-worship is so rampant on the West, that the natives will even bow themselves down before gods (spelt with one o or with two) supplied from prosaic Birmingham.

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There are relics of almost every traveller of note. Livingstone's surgical instrument-case is here; Bishop Harrington's teapot, coffee-pot, and ewer are also to be seen; and the gallery is hung with a number of portraits of celebrated African explorers. It will be an interesting exhibition.

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Something quite new in the popular category of prize competitions is to take place at Cologne. The contest is to begin on May 25 and end on September 29 in an exhibition to be erected. The aim of the competition, according to the circular, is to "assist in the Imperial plans for bettering the condition of the workers." Every invention, scheme, suggestion, or writing calculated in any way to increase the welfare of the workers, whether in their family life or factory life, will be admissible, under approval of the committee.

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The Exhibition Hall will contain four departments—(1) General Welfare of the Working Classes; (2) Home Industries; (3) Sanitation in Home and Workshop; (4) Protection from Accident, and Help for the Sick, the Aged, and the Unemployed. A catalogue of the prizes will appear later. The principal literary prize is a sum of 3,000 marks for the best work upon "the bettering of the condition of the German workers in the sense of the Imperial rescripts." Besides other prizes in money, there are to be gold medals, silver medals, and diplomas. Societies as well as individuals can compete by sending particulars of arrangements for the social and personal welfare of the workers. Further details may be obtained by applying to the Secretariat, 94, Hohenzollern-ring, Köln, Germany.

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The Ven. J. H. Gray, Archdeacon of Hong Kong, whose death at Hastings we announced yesterday, was for many years a well-known resident in the Far East. He was located at Canton, and to visitors to that wonderful city he was always ready and willing to act as guide, philosopher, and friend. His acquaintance with the Chinese and the various local places of interest was extensive and peculiar. The result of his experiences he embodied in a somewhat ponderous volume, published a good many years ago.

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It is not generally known that the "Liberals" (or Freethinkers) of America cherish a chronology of their own. In place of "A.D." (Anno Domini) they employ the contraction "E.M." (Era of Man), and this dates from the year 1600, when Giordano Bruno was burnt as a heretic on the Campo dei Fiore, Rome. The present year, which the effete monarchies of Europe regard as A.D. 1890, is to the American "Liberal" "E.M. 290." Nor does this exhaust the eccentricities of Transatlantic heretics. Their organ, the *Truthseeker* (New York), adopts the "fonetik" system of spelling in a half-hearted way, depriving words of silent finals, but in other respects conforming to usage. Here is an illustrative sentence:—"So far as we have seen, they all agree that Freethought *has* an Affirmativ, Positiv, and Constructiv side."

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The real name of "Rolf Boldrewood," the author of the now popular "Robbery Under Arms," and other Australian stories, is not Valentine Browne (as has been stated), but Thomas Alexander Browne. He is the police magistrate and coroner in charge of the Albury district of New South Wales. Valentine Browne is a colonial celebrity of a totally different character. He is the civil servant who obtained £1,000 damages for a libellous picture in Melbourne *Punch*. It having transpired in Parliament that the Mr. V. B. was a postal official with a handsome salary and nothing to do, Mr. *Punch* improved the occasion by representing Mr. V. B. standing in the corridor of the General Post Office with protruded tongue, as a sort of animated stamp-moistener, a hint to the authorities that his services might be profitably utilized in that manner. For this little pictorial joke Mr. V. B. brought an action against Mr. *Punch*, and won it.

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In the fourth part of the "Ruskin Bibliography," which was issued to subscribers yesterday, there are some interesting notes on the Discount System. In 1871 Mr. Ruskin began to issue the "Collected Works" edition of his books, and in an "advertisement" inserted in the first volume he referred as follows to the thorny question which has recently been revived by Mr. Macmillan:—

> It has long been in my mind to make some small beginning of resistance to the existing system of irregular discount in the bookselling trade—not in hostility to booksellers, but, as I think they will find eventually, with a just regard to their interest, as well as to that of the authors. Every volume of this series of my collected works will be sold to the trade, without any discount or allowance on quantity, at such a fixed price as will allow both author and publisher a moderate profit on each volume. It will be sold to the trade only; who can then fix such further profit on it as they deem fitting, for retail.

Subsequently this system was modified, and Mr. Ruskin's publisher now allows the trade a discount of 15 per cent.; but all his books have from 1871 to the present time been retailed to the public at their full published prices. So that Mr. Ruskin and his publisher may fairly claim to have settled in this special case the problem which is still perplexing the trade at large.

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Among the "rarities" mentioned in this new number of the Bibliography are "a few of the earliest copies" of the 1832 edition of "Sesame and Lilies," which were "bound in a kind of faded grey blue cloth." This was "afterwards changed for the other colours, because Mr. Ruskin expressed his disapproval and dislike of it." Again, of the *Oxford Museum*—a publication containing some letters by Mr. Ruskin—the third issue of the second edition is noted as "the only variety obtainable with virgin leaves, *all* other editions of the book having been issued with the edges sadly 'ploughed.'" Let up hope that the enumeration of these rare varieties will not turn too many "Ruskin collectors" green with envy.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or £2. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated list free of CHAS. STILES and CO.'S, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

DR. FARQUHARSON, M.P., ON CREMATION.

Dr. Farquharson, M.P., presided last night at a lecture given in Effra Public Hall, Brixton, on cremation. The hon. member has already advocated in the House of Commons the cremation of the body. The lecturer was Mr. Swinburne Hanham, whose father and mother both were cremated. The chairman remarked that the method of disposal of the dead did not, perhaps, matter much to the individual; but it did matter very much to the nation. He denounced burial as injuring health and actively spreading pestilence. Besides, he said, the present system took away a great deal of land that might be devoted to agricultural purposes. He declared that the sentimental argument against cremation was beautiful, but very superficial. Cremation he commended as quick, clean, and cheap. He hoped the aristocratic influence of the Duke of Bedford would dispose of the Mrs. Grundy objection. Finally, the legal difficulties, he said, were real only at first sight. The hon. member's speech was applauded by a fairly large audience. The lecturer said that burial in the earth polluted the air. Two-and-a-half million cubic feet of gas were exhaled every year in the metropolis. Diarrhœa, ulcered sore throat, and severe headache were common with people living near a graveyard. Nature never buried, but let the body lie as it fell. Burial polluted the water. No filtration would intercept the germs of smallpox. In favour of cremation we had the scientific evidence of Parkes, the great Pasteur, and the valuable speeches in the House by Dr. Farquharson, Dr. Cameron, and Sir Lyon Playfair. By cremation was done in two hours what burial did in twenty years. It propagated no disease. Whatever disease a patient died of, no living person suffered, so far as that patient was concerned. It was not a religious question, but a purely scientific one. (Applause.) Cremation lent itself more certainly than did burial to reverence for the dead. The Abbey and St. Paul's were overcrowded. So, if we wanted to honour a great statesman or soldier after death, we could put his ashes in a place where any one might see them without risk to himself. The lecture was received with considerable favour. We may mention that Mr. Hanham showed a phial containing the ashes resulting from the cremation of a human body, and it was passed round and the contents intently examined.

MR. R. L. STEVENSON IN SAMOA.

The Samoa correspondent of the *British Weekly*, writes, under date December 30:—"Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson is in Samoa. He hails from Apemanena in the Gilbert Islands. The Samoans are quick to discern a sympathetic eye and heart, and this friend of native Polynesian races is likely, in consequence, to be able to tell a full and interesting story of recent past events in Samoan experience of foreign aggression."

THE DRAFTING OF THE PARNELL COMMISSION BILL.

Sir Richard Webster's apparent denial of the statement that he was concerned in the drafting of the Parnell Commission Bill, according to the London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*, provokes positive declarations of a contrary character, and the Government is to be asked to lay the various drafts of the bill on the table of the House.

SCHOLARSHIPS AT CAMBRIDGE.

The following Entrance Scholarships have been awarded:—

I. At Clare College.—For Classics: £60 to Malim, Blackheath Proprietary School; £50 to Beachcroft, Rugby; £40 to Barton, Shrewsbury, and private tuition; £40 to Hughes, City of London. For Mathematics: £65 to Muller, Newton College, South Devon; £50 to Pearson, St. Paul's, and private tuition. Johnson's Exhibition to Baxter, Merchant Taylors. For Natural Science: £40 to Bryant, Weymouth College; Johnson's Exhibition to Colley, Uppingham.

II. At King's College.—£60 to Peel, Huddersfield College; £40 to Marjoribanks, private tuition; £35 to Bond, Rugby; £35 to Drury, Dulwich College; £35 to Monsarrat, King Henry's School, Coventry.

PROFESSOR TYNDALL AND PROFESSOR WATTS.

The Irish *Presbyterian Church man* says:—"The new Belfast Society for the Extension of University Teaching is attracting much and deserved attention. Belfast was ripe for such a society, and the rapidity with which the tickets for the various courses of lectures have been bought up testifies strongly to the numbers who were ready to take advantge of it. The committee made a great hit in securing Professor Tyndall for the inauguration lecture; but if the truth were told, it must be confessed that the Professor proved anything but fresh and entertaining to the majority of his audience. It was suggested that those who fainted during the lecture fainted from sheer disappointment. Curious and instructive comparisons might be drawn between Professor Tyndall's recent appearance in the Ulster Hall and his last famous visit to Belfast in 1874, when he enunciated his theory of life and matter. On that occasion he raised the righteous wrath of the local religious world, but now we find him lecturing with the Rev. Thomas Hamilton, D.D., as his chairman and his host. Dr. Watts, his old critic, received quite an ovation as he took his seat in a prominent place in the balcony. Who has changed in the meanwhile, Tyndall or the Church? Certainly not the Church."

MISS FLORENCE MAY'S RECITAL.

Princes' Hall was fairly filled last night on the occasion of Miss Florence May's concert. Miss May is a pianiste of considerable grace, though lacking force somewhat. Her répertoire, judging from yesterday, is agreeably varied, ranging from Mendelssohn and Gluck to Chopin and Brahms. Herr Gompertz assisted the concert-giver in Brahms's G major sonata (op. 78) for pianoforte and violin, which was calmly and neatly, if somewhat coldly, played. Mr. Howell contributed a sonata in G minor for violoncello by Marcello, a charming example of the old school, with clear intonation, intelligence, and feeling. An interesting item was six short waltzes by Miss May—graceful compositions gracefully played.

A FRENCH TRAGEDY.

A jury at Nantes has just acquitted a workman named Dumoulin who had attempted to Kill himself, his mistress (a married woman), and their eleven months' old daughter Georgette, by suffocation. The husband of the woman having threatened to prosecute Dumoulin, the lovers resolved to put an end to their existence and that of their child. Dumoulin lit a charcoal pan between their bed and the child's cradle. The mother and baby died but Dumoulin survived.—*Dalziel.*

UNITARIAN CRITICISM OF UNIVERSITY HALL.

As Mrs. Humphry Ward's scheme is very generally—although wrongly—supposed to be an exclusively Unitarian movement, it is interesting to note that one of the Unitarian papers, *Christian Life*, finds a serious fault with the theological position adopted. It "extremely regrets" the negation of miracle which it finds in the basis of the movement, and says: "Had the first teachers of Christianity planted themselves on the basis Mrs. Ward proposes, Christianity would not have been heard of out of Palestine. It also deprecates the narrowing spirit in reference to God's ways of teaching the nations. Nothing that Mrs. Ward proposes," it thinks, "will quicken the life of our people."

PARIS THEATRES' GAINS BY THE EXHIBITION.

The official statistics just published by the Finance Ministry show that the theatres and other places of amusement in Paris reaped a very rich harvest during the Exhibition. Their total receipts during 1889 were 32,138,998 f., whereas in 1888 they were 25,007,074 f. In this total increase of 9,131,924 f. the Grand Opéra figures for nearly 1,100,000 f., the Comédie Française for 620,000 f., the Châlet for close on 1,000,000 f., the Gaieté for 500,000 f., and the Variétés and Nouveautés for 400,000 f.

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Dr. Rutherford, of Newcastle, a well-known educationalist, is seriously ill.

Lord Harris, accompanied by Colonel Rhodes, his private secretary, has left Cairo for Bombay.—*Reuter.*

M. Lessar, of Afghan frontier fame, lately Russian Consul at Liverpool, has been appointed Diplomatic Agent of the Foreign Office in Bokhara, in place of M. Charikoff, who has resigned.

Mr. Justice Stephen was somewhat better yesterday. His lordship is not seriously ill, but has been ordered by his medical advisers to take complete rest for some time in consequence of over-work.

The Windsor and Eton Choral Society last night celebrated their jubilee by a special performance of "The Golden Legend" at St. Mark's School, Windsor. A band and chorus of 250 were under Mr. Joseph Barnby's direction, and the performance was admirably the best ever given in the Royal borough.

Sir James Kitson has been invited to become the Liberal candidate for the central division of Leeds, and also for the Colne Valley division of the West Riding of Yorkshire. It is understood that he will give his decision in the course of the next few days.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d. and 11s. each of all Chemists. Proprietors, Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and do not be persuaded to take imitations.

MRS. BESANT AND THE RECTOR OF STEPNEY.

The libel action brought by Mrs. Besant against the Rev. E. Hoskyns, rector of Stepney, is not to be fought over again. The rev. gentleman's solicitor has received notice that Mrs. Besant has, of her own motion, withdrawn the action which had been set down for a second trial, and has also entered into an agreement not to bring any fresh action in respect of the same matter.

THE "CRIMINAL CONSPIRATORS" IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Arthur O'Connor has been elected chairman of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons on Trade. A better choice for the position could not be made. Yet what a commentary it is (says the *New York Herald*) on the course just taken by the House, in ordering the Report of the Special Commission to be inscribed on its journals, that in this very report its chairman of a most important Standing Committee is described as a "criminal conspirator."

THE ACTION AGAINST MR. T. W. RUSSELL, M.P.

The libel case of "Patrick O'Brien, M.P. v. T. W. Russell, M.P.," on which a Cork special jury disagreed in November last, will be tried over again next week. The cause of action arose out of Mr. Russell's letters in the *Times* on the Gweedore estate. The case will be tried before Lord Justice Barry and a special jury of the city of Cork.

LORD R. CHURCHILL AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

The following resolution will be moved at the next meeting of the Paddington Parliament on Tuesday:—"That this house, representative as it is of all shades of opinion in Paddington, desires to place on record its approval of the constitutional attitude of Lord Randolph Churchill with respect to the appointment of the Parnell Commission."

A LONDON STATUE OF JOHN BRIGHT.

The committee, formed of leading members of all political parties, for the purpose of raising a national memorial to the late John Bright, decided at its first meeting last summer that the memorial should take the form of a statue, to be erected in or near the Houses of Parliament. It is now found that the subscriptions are likely to exceed the sum required for the main object, and the surplus is to be devoted to educational or philanthropic purposes, after the wishes of the subscribers have been ascertained.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS' CONFERENCE.

The usual Easter conference of the National Union of Teachers is to be held in London this year, and one of its chief features will be a grand conversazione at the South Kensington Museum, which has been placed at the disposal of the Union by Lord Cranbrook, Lord President of the Council. The proceedings are to be on a grand scale, and include a promenade concert by the band of the Scots Guards, a concert by the Lyric Vocal Union in the theatre of the Museum, speeches by prominent men, and pianoforte recitals. All this is to take place on April 10, while two days previously there is to be a grand ball at the Cannon-street Hotel.

THE QUESTION OF COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

Dr. Wormell read a paper, at the meeting of the College of Preceptors last evening, on the scheme of Commercial Education prepared by the London Chamber of Commerce, criticising it from a schoolmaster's point of view. He warned his audience that there were two sides to this question, and that neither could force its views on the other. The best course for teachers was to advise those who were destined for City life to become candidates for the commercial certificate. He, however, condemned the other part of the scheme as absorbing the whole of the school time, and leaving no room for any other study.

MORE NEW REGULATIONS AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

Restrictions as well as concessions are always quietly going on in the Readers' Room of the British Museum. The latest restriction is, we think, a wise step. Readers are no longer to be allowed to take up places in the old way by which any one might early in the morning secure half a dozen seats, by simply laying a pair of gloves on one, a hat on another, a coat on a third, a scarf on a fourth, and so on. The immense increase in the roll of readers makes some measure for better regulation imperative. Unoccupied seats, even should there be books on the table, will not be reserved for any one, so that busy workers who reach the room in the afternoon may have a chance of getting a place. This was next to impossible when a reader by leaving a few books could reserve his seat and go away for hours.

WELSH CHURCHMEN IN LONDON.

The Earl of Powis and others have found the necessary funds for the appointment of a curate to officiate regularly in the Welsh mission room in the parish of St. Mary, Paddington, and the Rev. Creath Ellis, formerly curate of Llanfairfechan, has been appointed. It is thought probable that Sir John Puleston's scheme for building a Welsh church in London will result in an existing church being utilized for exclusive Welsh services.

"UNITED IRELAND" AND LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

United Ireland to-day, commenting upon Lord Randolph Churchill's memorandum on the Parnell Commission, says his warnings of the consequences shows that this little nobleman has bigger brains than any of those intellectual giants who rule the destinies of the British Empire, but they also fail to show that he has a spark of conscience more than the worst of them. It is plainly Churchill's view that it were better policy to keep the scoundrelly charges of the *Times* hanging over the heads of the Irish party than to have them subjected to any searching public analysis. Therefore he differentiates himself from the whole vile Unionist gang only in question of degree. He is more astute, though perhaps a good deal less courageous than any of his former colleagues. He is a worthy descendant, so far as cunning goes, of his notorious ancestor, Jack Jennings, who, if he had not been able to announce victories on the field, would certainly have had to take his place in the dock for malversation and swindling.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS ON THE COMING REVOLUTION.

Last night there was a meeting of Socialists at South-place, Finsbury, to commemorate the proclamation of the Commune at Paris nineteen years ago. It was a strange gathering. Respectable English artisans and their wives were mixed with French and German Socialists wearing immense slouched hats, and revolutionary songs were sung by women adorned with red scarves. Greetings by telegraph came from Glasgow, Sheffield, Yarmouth, and Norwich. The chairman declared that the "comrades" were prepared to repeat the Paris experiment, only avoiding the Paris mistakes. Then a resolution was proposed which spoke of the "glorious memory of the soldiers of liberty." Mr. W. Morris, the poet, gave a serious turn to the meeting. This was the gist of his speech. The Paris Communards had the opportunity of a great European war. This opportunity might occur again, but the signs of it were receding. Meanwhile, the war between the rich and the poor was becoming bitterer every day. He believed that their opportunity of revolution would come during the present labour war. There would be a universal strike of workers. The coal strikers would have found out that, if they were to strike with the general concurrence of their fellows, "the thing is done." Then the military force would be called in, the shedding of blood would begin, and there would be open war on labour. He himself rejoiced to see the redcoats brought to Liverpool, because the masters were showing the world that already they can only overcome the workers by violent means.

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The New York Custom House authorities have seized a quantity of jewellery belonging to passengers on the steamship *Werra*, which was found concealed in cigar cases.

Mr. Grover Cleveland, ex-president of the United States, has refused an offer of 50,000 dols. a year to manage one of the English syndicate companies.—*Dalziel.*

The Elmslie memorial fund seems to hang fire at present, only about £1,500 having been subscribed. The general committee meet next week, and will then have to decide what is to be done.

The Kyrle Society, under the direction of Mr. F. A. W. Docker, gave a performance of "St. Paul" yesterday in Christ Church, Endell-street. The soloists were Miss H. Wilson Nicholson, Miss Ellen Cooper, Mr. George Micklewood, and Mr. Arthur Wills. Dr. Turpin accompanied on the organ.

Dr. Randall, Bishop of Reading (Suffragan of Oxford), was yesterday presented with a beautiful pastoral staff, of the value of £200, chiefly subscribed by friends in the archdeaconries of Berks and Bucks, and at the same time an oil portrait of her husband was given to Mrs. Randall.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Northern Technical and Recreative Institute held last evening, the honorary secretary announced the receipt of a cheque for £1,000 from Sir James Tyler, adding, that although contributions had been promised to him by a serious and painful illness, Sir James had not overlooked his early association with this movement or the necessities of North London.

The popularity of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA is rapidly increasing, and where once tried its delicious flavour and agreeable qualities secure for it a permanence place in the household dietary. Highly recommended by many eminent physicians, for young children and delicate persons, to whom tea is injurious. To secure this article ask for FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA.

A DEBATE ABOUT BANKRUPTS.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY. BY AN OBSERVER.

It was five minutes past one before a House was made yesterday, and a few minutes later Sir Albert Rollit rose to move the second reading of his Bankruptcy Bill. In an extremely clear and able speech, the hon. member for South Islington exposed the frauds which were possible, and frequently practised, under the present law. He quoted the case of a man who had been living for ten years at the rate of £600 a year, and had been insolvent the whole time. The bill before the House proposed to render such conduct as this criminal. The bill was supported by Colonel Hill, the president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, but opposed by the lawyers. Mr. Sydney Gedge, for example, said that he had intended to vote against the second reading, but after having heard the speech of the opener would abstain for doing so on the understanding that the bill went before a Standing Committee. Mr. T. H. Bolton, the new member for St. Pancras, adopted much the same line, and Mr. Lloyd Morgan expressed a fear that the bill would press very heavily on small debtors. Mr. Dixon Hartland struck a new line in suggesting that the country would be better off with no bankruptcy law at all.

Mr. Peter McDonald protested against the line taken by the lawyers in attacking this bill. They seemed to think that laws only existed for the sake of the lawyers. Mr. Chamberlain expressed his great satisfaction with the bill. It included many points which the Board of Trade had in vain urged upon Parliament in 1883, and many other points which that Board would have proposed if it had not known that Parliament would be certain to reject them. Mr Kelly opposed the bill *in toto*, but the Solicitor-General, on behalf of the Government, having asked the House to consent to the second reading, this course was adopted without a division, and the bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Trade.

The Leaseholders (Ireland) Bill was the next order of the day. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, in moving the second reading, said that it was an anomaly that Irish leaseholders under long leases should be excluded from the benefit of the Land Act of 1881. Colonel Waring said it was useless to discuss the bill before the House knew what the Government intended with regard to Land Purchase. He therefore moved that the bill be read a second time that day three months. Mr. T. W. Russell made an appeal to the Government to accept the bill. In reply, Mr. Balfour paid a few compliments to the hon. member for South Tyrone, and then proceeded to demonstrate by logical induction how misguided the hon. member was in supporting the present measure. It was now half-past five, and the debate was consequently adjourned. Several votes of supply passed through their report stage unopposed, but none of the numerous bills set down for second reading were allowed to pass.

THE INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS.

The International Congress convoked to complete and revive the Conventions for the protection of industrial property will meet at Madrid on April 1, and will be presided over by Señor Moret. In addition to the three English and several Spanish delegates, France, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Germany, Austria, Portugal, and other countries will be represented. The object of the Congress is to complete and revise the Paris Convention of 1883, and the Rome Convention of 1886, and also to devise the best means of inducing other countries to adhere to the arrangements for the better protection of trade marks, inventions, and industrial property generally, against the frequent frauds and invasions of foreign rights.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN CRICKETER.

A cricketer who filled a conspicuous place in his day has passed away in the person of Roger Iddison, of Yorkshire. He was one of a noted band of professional players who made the Yorkshire County Club was first established on a regular footing, at once earned a high reputation for the eleven, and those whose cricket memories go back five and twenty years will recall many a good match in which he figured with Slinn and Hodgson, Anderson, Atkinson, and Edward Stevenson, the wicket-keeper. A little later, when Yorkshire reached the very top of the tree, he was one of a great eleven, which included George Freeman, Emmett, Pinder, and Lockwood. Iddison formed one of the first English teams that visited Australia.

Every one interested in South Africa should read

THE TRUE STORY

OF THE

Gold AND Diamond Mines of South Africa,

Which appears in to-day's PALL MALL BUDGET. The articles are profusely illustrated, and contain an impartial statement of the present condition of the mining industries in that country, and the probabilities of the future.

PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.

MAY BE HAD AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS AND AT ALL NEWSAGENTS.

THE

PALL MALL BUDGET

Of THURSDAY, March 20,

PRICE FOURPENCE,

ALSO CONTAINS:

A PORTRAIT OF MRS. HUMPHRY WARD, the Authoress of "Robert Elsmere."

A PORTRAIT OF MR. CECIL RHODES, the King of the Diamond Fields.

THE MODERN PAN. A Cartoon by Mr. Hugh Thomson.

LONDON THE PICTURESQUE. A Talk with Mr. Herbert Marshall on the Scenery of London.

WHICH ARE BROWNING'S BEST POEMS?

THUMBNAILS IN PARLIAMENT.

2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP!

IMPORTANT SALE OF

Silver, Electro-Plate, Cutlery,

ETC.

At 33 to 50 per cent. Discount.

MAPPIN BROS.,

(the original Firm established 1810,)

220, REGENT ST., W., & 35, ST. PAUL'S CH. YD., LONDON.

Manufactory—QUEEN'S WORKS, SHEFFIELD.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

Veuve Monnier Champagne.

SPECIAL CUVEE—VINTAGE 1884.

Price 68s. per Dozen.

NO FINER WINE CAN BE HAD AT ANY PRICE.

To be had of all Wine Merchants.

VEUVE MONNIER ET SES FILS,

Rue du Commerce, Epernay.

LONDON OFFICES: 85 and 86, GREAT TOWER STREET, E.C.

SCHWEITZER'S

COCOATINA

THE BEST AND PUREST

COCOA

AND CHEAPEST

COCOATINA

DR. SOULE'S

"HOP BITTERS."

THE GREAT APPETIZER AND ANTIDOTE FOR SLEEPLESSNESS.

THEY GIVE NEW LIFE AND VIGOUR to the aged and infirm. To all whose employments cause irregularity of the bowels or urinary organs, or who require an Aperient, Tonic, and Mild Somulant, these Bitters are invaluable, being highly curative, tonic, and stimulating, WITHOUT INTOXICATING.—BEWARE OF DANGEROUS IMITATIONS.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

MESSRS. LATTIMER, CRICK, and CO. beg to state that they have OPENED PREMISES at 87, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, for the sale of the new GOODYEAR WELTED BOOTS and SHOES.

THE LIST of APPLICATIONS will be CLOSED on or before FRIDAY, the 21st inst., at Four o'clock.

THE NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

ISSUE OF £2,000,000 FIVE PER CENT. EQUIPMENT TRUST BONDS (1890) of £100 each at 92½ per cent.

Coupons payable in sterling in London on 1st June and 1st December.

At the price of issue the return to the investor is equal to £5 8s. per cent., without taking into account the bonus of 7½ per cent. on redemption by drawings.

TRUSTEES.

Sir Charles E. Lewis, Bart., M.P., 36, Hyde Park-gate, W.

The Right Hon. Lord Ribblesdale, Gisburne Park, Clitheroe.

The Rev. John Lockington Bates, M.A., Iden, Sussex.

MESSRS. HESELTINE, POWELL, and CO. are authorized to RECEIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS for EQUIPMENT TRUST BONDS to the amount of £2,000,000, in Bonds of £100 each, bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum. Coupons payable in sterling in London, on the 1st June and 1st December, the first Coupon being payable on 1st December, 1890. Interest instalments up to 1st June, 1890, will be paid to holders when exchanging their Scrip for Definitive Bonds.

The price of issue, 92½ per cent., payable as follows:—

5 per cent. on Application.
25 per cent. on Allotment.
30 per cent. on April 15, 1890.
32½ per cent. on May 15, 1890.

92½

There is a Cumulative Sinking Fund of 3 per cent. per annum, which will redeem all the Bonds by annual drawings in 20 years; so that all Bonds will be paid off at par, in sterling, by 1st June, 1910.

The first ANNUAL DRAWING will take place on the SECOND TUESDAY in MAY, 1891, for repayment on 1st June, 1891, and all Bonds drawn at this or subsequent drawings will be paid at the Agency of the Company in London.

1. The proceeds of this issue (less the expenses and outlay connected therewith) will be applied in purchasing equipment as hereafter mentioned, which will be vested in a Trust for securing this issue of Bonds and interest, until full payment of principal and interest, when the equipment will become the property of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company.

2. The equipment so bought is to be leased by the Trustees to the Lessees of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company at a rental sufficient to cover 8 per cent. on the amount of this issue, of which 3 per cent. shall be interest, and 5 per cent. sinking fund, the annual charge for principal and interest being about £200,000 on the present issue. More than half of this charge will be met by the maturing of the two American Car Trusts now running; one of which, involving an annual payment of £9,000 dols., terminates next July, and the other, amounting to about 24,000 dols., in 1893.

3. The New York, Lake Erie, and Western Railroad Company have agreed to become parties to the Trust Deed, and also that the property so purchased shall, when in their hands, be held by them under their lease of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad, and used, maintained, and renewed in accordance with it, and that they will pay the taxes thereon.

4. The New York, Lake Erie, and Western Railroad Company also agree to covenant with the Trustees to pay them the rental of this equipment (should the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Railroad Company fail to do so) out of the annual rental they have to pay under their lease of the New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio Road, after the payment of certain prior obligations specifically mentioned in the Deed of Trust, amounting to about 1,250,000 dols. The annual rental is fixed at a minimum of 1,757,684 dols. per annum, but varies above this figure on the basis of a percentage on the gross earnings of this Road. On this basis, the net rental and other income of the Company last year was, in fact, over 2,115,000 dols., thus leaving a margin of over 800,000 dols. to secure the interest on this issue.

5. The property to be acquired with the proceeds of the present issue will consist of 1,400 Thirty-ton Coal Cars, forty per cent. of these drop Ore Cars, and 10 Consolidation Engines; and such other cars or engines as the necessities of the business may require and as may be agreed upon between this Company, the first Company, and the Voting Trustees.

6. The property to be put into this Trust will be acquired in the name of the Trustees, and will bear an iron plate stating the ownership under this Trust during the whole time of its continuance.

7. Subscribers will have the option of prepayment in full, on allotment, receiving interest on such prepayment at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. In default of payment of the amount due on allotment, or of any instalment, all previous payments will be liable to forfeiture, and the allotment to be cancelled. If no allotment be made, the amount paid on application will be returned in full.

8. Scrip Certificates to bearer will be issued against allotment letters and the Bankers' receipts, and, after the payment of the final instalment, will be exchanged for Definitive Bonds.

9. The Deed of Trust, Draft Lease, and form of Bond, may be seen at the offices of Messrs. Trinders and Co., 67, Cornhill, London, E.C.

10. Applications must be on the form enclosed with the Prospectus accompanied by the deposit of 5 per cent., and may be sent direct to the Bankers, Messrs. Heseltine, Powell, and Co., 7, Bank buildings, Lothbury, E.C., or to Messrs. Heseltine, Powell, and Co.; or to the Secretary, Mr. Fred. W. Smith, 20, Bucklersbury, London, E.C.

11. Forms of Application may be obtained at the Offices of the Trust, or from Messrs. Heseltine, Powell, and Co., 1, Drapers'-gardens, London, E.C.

Offices of the Trust:
20, Bucklersbury, London, E.C.
15th March, 1890.

THE LIST will CLOSE on or before TO-MORROW (Friday), 21st, for town, and SATURDAY, 22nd, for country.

Genuine Home Investment Earning Profits available for half-yearly dividends (See Report of Messrs. Tunstall, Youngs, and Co., at the Office of the Company).

BRITISH and COLONIAL COMPANY (Limited), 9, Mine Merchants (established 1760) and Club Proprietors.

CAPITAL £100,000, divided into 10,000 Seven per Cent. Preference Shares of £5 each, and 10,000 Ordinary Shares of £5 each. The Preference Shares are entitled to a cumulative preferential dividend of 7 per cent. per annum, and to a priority of payment also. By the contract for sale the vendor is bound (if required by the directors) to take, as part of the purchase money, either all the Company's Ordinary Shares, or one-third of the Preference and one-third of the Ordinary Shares, by arrangement with him at all the shares are now offered for public subscription. Payable 10s. per share on application, £2 10s. per share on allotment, and the balance of £2 on the seventh after allotment.

Bellamy's was established as a Wine and Spirit Merchant's business more than a century ago, and speedily became one of the most popular institutions of the day, supplying both Lords and Commons with wines and wines, in extracts from the writings of Disraeli, Thackeray, and others fully testify.

The present proprietor has added to this old-established business other connections, which have resulted in the present prosperous condition.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Honourable Lord Saye and Sele, D.L., J.P. (Director of Alexander Hill Gas Company (Limited), Hyde Park).

Ernest H. Ashby, Esq. (Director of Charles Ashby and Company, Limited), Elmcroft, Staines.

Lieut.-Col. Rintoul, D.L., J.P. (Director Continental Hotel (Limited), Spring-grove, S.W.).

A. F. Wentworth Gore, Esq., 5, Devonshire-terrace, Bayswater, W.

*Abercrombie Castle, Esq. (Bellamy, Smith, and Co., Chairman Agricultural Hotel Company (Limited), 24, Haymarket), Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.), Managing Director.

*Will join the Board after allotment.

BANKERS.—Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., 54, Lombard-street, E.C., and No. 1, Pall-mall East, S.W.

SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Thomas and Hick, 18, Walbrook, E.C.

BROKER.—Peter Hurst, Esq., 5, Drapers'-gardens, E.C., and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.

SECRETARY.—John Aycough.

OFFICES.—38, Parliament-street, S.W.

For Prospectus see previous advertisements.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or at the Offices of the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors.

Established 1868.

THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.

BUDGE-ROW, CANNON-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Reserve Fund.....£65,000

FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£20 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.

DEPOSITS of £3 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.

For particulars apply to the Secretary,

F. H. ROCKE.

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1867.

Total advances made exceed £1,385,685.

DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to arrangement as to withdrawal.

DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.

For forms of application apply to

W. H. MAYERS, Secretary.

Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

HOUSES, Furnished and Unfurnished, and all descriptions of business premises, to be let or sold in London and country; valuable freehold, leasehold, land also on hand. Particulars free, of H. C. HALLIDAY, Land and Estate Agent, 60 and 66, Chancery-lane, W.C., and Hendon.

ISSUE of 100,000 SHARES of £2 EACH, at a PREMIUM of £1 PER SHARE.

ELMORE'S PATENT COPPER DEPOSITING COMPANY (Limited), INVITE APPLICATIONS for the above ORDINARY SHARES in ELMORE'S WIRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY (Limited).

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will OPEN on FRIDAY, the 21st inst., and will CLOSE on or before SATURDAY, the 22nd inst.

ELMORE'S WIRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886, whereby the liability of the shareholders is limited to the amount of their shares.

CAPITAL £300,020; divided into 150,000 Ordinary Shares of £2 each, and 10 Founders' Shares of £2 each.

Applications have been privately received for a very large proportion of the present issue, but definitely no preference in allotment will be given to these applications inasmuch as one-half of the shares now offered for subscription.

The present subscription is limited to 100,000 ordinary shares. The price of this issue is £3 per share, being at £1 per share premium (half the premium will be carried to a Reserve Fund); the remaining half is payable to Elmore's Patent Copper Depositing Company, Limited), payable as follows:—5s. per share on application; 25s. per share on allotment (this payment includes the premium of 20s. per share); 10s. per share on the 2nd June; 10s. per share on the 1st August; and 20s. per share on the 1st November, 1890.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

GEORGE SMITH, Esq. (Chairman of the Kent Water Works Company, and Director of the Central Bank of London, Limited), West Bank, Lewisham-hill.

WILLIAM ELMORE, Esq., Spring-grove, Thwaitegate, Leeds.

Sir John H. Morris, K.C.S.I., 68, Queen's-gate, S.W., Director of the Namaqua Copper Company (Limited).

E. J. Carson, Esq., Rydal, Surbiton-hill Park, Surrey, Director of the Cape Copper Company (Limited).

John MacFarlan, Esq., Invermay, Strathyre, Stirnbire, Director of the Rio Tinto Copper Company (Limited).

J. Jepson Atkinson, Esq., Cosgrove Priory, Northants.

J. T. Cooper, Esq., Cregg, Nightingale-lane, S.W.

Directors of Elmore's Patent Copper Depositing Company (Limited), and will join the Board after allotment.

BANKERS.—Martin and Co., 68, Lombard-street, E.C.

BROKERS.—Derenburg and Co., 9, Drapers'-gardens, E.C.

SECRETARY (pro tem.).—Mr. J. Shurmer.

OFFICES.—26, Gresham-buildings, E.C.

SOLICITORS.—Hollams, Sons, Coward, and Hawksley, Mincing-lane, E.C.

AUDITORS.—Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths, and Co., 4, Lothbury, E.C.

WORKS MANAGERS.—Messrs. F. E. and A. S. Elmore.

WORKS.—Haigh Park, near Leeds.

This Company is formed to acquire the exclusive British licence to make all kinds of metal wire, ribbon, tape, and cord, by the Elmore process, with the sole right to grant sub-licences for the same; it is formed pursuant to the original intention of the licensing company, which was to have a separate company and capital to carry out the great amount of work the directors were certain would be offered to the wire manufacturing department.

The Company is launched at a favourable time in consequence of the numerous extensions and developments now about to be made in the Telegraphic and Cable Services, and in the establishment of numerous Central Electric Lighting Stations in London and throughout the country, and other applications of electricity which have produced and must still more create an unprecedented demand for pure copper wire of the highest electrical conductivity obtainable.

By the Elmore process, in the one operation of refining the copper from the rough Chili bars, pure copper in the form of a cylinder (from which the wire is drawn direct) is automatically produced, and the gold, silver, and impurities are extracted.

The fact of the Elmore wire being drawn directly from the electro-deposited copper without melting ensures the maximum purity, and consequently the maximum conductivity obtainable in copper, therefore it cannot fail to be highly appreciated by cable, telegraph, telephone, and electrical engineers.

Messrs. Clark, Forde, and Taylor, the well known experts, who have carried out an extensive series of experiments on Elmore copper wire, and have carefully investigated its electrical and mechanical properties, state in their official reports:—"In the following report we shall speak of the conducting power of what is usually called 'pure' copper as the conductivity of standard copper. This standard is founded on the experiments of Dr. Matthiessen, and represented the highest conductivity he ever obtained with the most elaborate precautions, and for many years it was believed to be the extreme limit of conducting power for copper . . . denoted by 100." Messrs. Clark, Forde, and Taylor certify that the mean of the conductivities of three samples of Elmore Copper Wire in terms of the standard for hard copper as well as in that for annealed copper, is as follows:—

Conductivity of Annealed Copper Wire in terms of Standard for Annealed Copper,	Conductivity of Annealed Wire in terms of Standard for Hard Copper,
102.34.	101.44.

"We drew the larger wire through the 13 holes in a draw plate (the last hole being of agate) without annealing, and its hardness may be judged of by the fact that its breaking strain was at the rate of 28 tons per square inch, with an elongation of that strain of only ¾ per cent. We have been greatly interested in this wire, as its conducting power is higher than that of any sample we have hitherto tested. The mechanical, as well as the electrical, properties of your copper wire are excellent."

In a further report, dated 21st February, 1890, they say:—"We have carefully tested the sample of copper you handed to us in the spirally cut tube form, and find that its electrical and mechanical properties are practically identical with those obtained from the previous tests made by us on Mr. Elmore's wire . . . the specific gravity of the copper received was 8.944 . . . Your observations was made on the temperature coefficient of this copper, and the results obtained confirm absolutely its value as given by us in our first report to Mr. Elmore."

From these reports it will be seen that the Elmore Wire is capable of being drawn extremely hard, of great tensile strength, at the same time retaining an extremely high conducting power. For use in submarine cable construction it is equally capable of being made very soft. It is therefore believed that the wire produced by this Company and its licensees will secure the monopoly for the supply of wire for telegraphic and cable purposes, as it fulfils all the conditions required.

The Directors are satisfied that this superiority is of great value, and that the Elmore Wire will become the standard for electric and general purposes.

Very careful estimates of the cost of manufacturing wire by the Elmore process, and of the profits obtainable on the basis of the Company's proposed output of 100 tons per week, have been prepared by Mr. William Elmore, with the result that the Directors feel confident that this Company will be able to produce copper wire in chemical purity, specific gravity, tensile strength, mechanical properties, electrical conductivity, ductility, and malleability, superior to anything of the kind which has ever been produced by any other process, and yielding a profit of over £100,000 per annum, exclusive of Royalties on Sub-Licences.

The essential and indisputable facts which practically guarantee the success of this Company are as follows:—

1. The process produces an article of commanding superiority over anything in competition with it.

2. The cost of manufacture is far less than that of the best quality of copper wire hitherto produced.

Elmore's Patent Copper Depositing Company (Limited) have undertaken to make and sell a few tons of wire per month (by plant already established at their Tube Works) during the erection of this Company's Works, and the Company to commence at once take orders upon which to start work immediately on completion of the Works.

The purchase-money to be paid by the Company to Elmore's Patent Copper Depositing Company (Limited) is £75,000, and half the amount of premiums received by any issue of shares by this Company, after deducting allotments of the two Founders' Shares of £2 each.

The Founders' Shares shall not be entitled to any dividend until 20 per cent. per annum has been earned on the Ordinary paid-up Capital of the Company in any year, after which the surplus profits will be divided, as to one moiety, to the holders of the Ordinary Shares, and, as to the other moiety, to the holders of the Founders' Shares.

No promotion money has been or will be paid, and all the preliminary expenses (including brokerage) up to the first allotment of shares will be paid by Elmore's Patent Copper Depositing Company (Limited) out of the one part, and this Company of the other part.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association, the above Agreement, and Reports of the various authorities quoted herein, together with specimens of articles manufactured under the process, can all be inspected at the Company's Offices, where, as also of the Bankers and Brokers, Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained.

If the whole amount applied for by any applicant be not allotted, the surplus amount paid on deposit will be appropriated towards the sum due on allotment, and where no allotment is made the application money will be returned in full.

London, 17th March, 1890.

Applications for shares may also be made by letter, in the following form:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF ELMORE'S WIRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Gentlemen,—I hereby request you to allot me shares in your Company, on the terms of your Prospectus, dated 17th March, 1890, and I agree to accept the same (or any smaller number that may be allotted me), and to pay the instalments thereon when due, in accordance with the terms of the Prospectus and the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and I further agree to give any fuller compliance under section 38 of the Companies Act, 1867, than that contained in such Prospectus.

I enclose cheque for £ , being a deposit of 5s. per share applied for by me.

Signature.....
Name (in full).....
Residence.....
Description.....
Date.....1890.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT 5 PER CENT. INSCRIBED STOCK.

First Dividend, being Six Months' Interest, payable 1st July, 1890.

THE GOVERNOR and COMPANY of the BANK of ENGLAND GIVE NOTICE that they are authorised to receive Tenders for £2,264,754 QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT 5 PER CENT. INSCRIBED STOCK, repayable at par on the 1st July, 1908.

By the Act 40 and 41 Vic., ch. 59, the Revenues of the Colony alone will be liable in respect of this Stock and the Dividends thereon, and the Schedule dated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury will not be directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the Stock or of the Dividends thereon, or for any matter relating thereto.

Tenders may be for the whole or any part of this Stock, and must state what amount of money will be given for every £100 of Stock. Tenders for other than even hundreds of Stock, or at a price including fractions of a shilling other than sixpence, will not be accepted. Tenders must be delivered at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, before two o'clock, TO-MORROW (Friday), the 21st March, 1890. Tenders at different prices must be on separate forms. The amount of Stock applied for must be written on the outside of the tender.

The tenders, below which no tender or bid will be accepted, has been fixed at £97 for every £100 of Stock.

A deposit of £5 per cent. on the amount of Stock tendered for must be paid at the same Office at the time of the delivery of the tender, and no deposits must not be enclosed in the tender. Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned, and in case of partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the first instalment.

In the event of the receipt of tenders at or above the minimum price for a larger amount of Stock than that proposed to be issued, the issue at the lowest price accepted will be subject to a *pro rata* diminution.

The dates at which the further payments on account of the said Loan will be required are as follows:—

On Wednesday, 2nd April, 1890, so much as, when added to the deposit, will leave Eighty Pounds (including the said £5) for each hundred pounds Stock;
On Friday, 2nd May, 1890, £20 per cent.;
On Tuesday, 3rd June, 1890, £20 per cent.;
On Wednesday, 2nd July, 1890, £20 per cent.;
On Friday, 1st August, 1890, £20 per cent.

The instalments may be paid in full on or after the 2nd of April, 1890, discount at the rate of £3 per cent. per annum. In case of default in the payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposit and instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip Certificates to Bearer, with a Coupon attached for the Dividend due 1st July, 1890, will be issued in exchange for provisional receipts.

The Stock will be inscribed in the Bank Books on or after the 1st August, 1890, but Scrip paid up in full, in anticipation, may be inscribed forthwith.

Applications must be upon the printed forms which may be obtained at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England; of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall and Co., 4, Lombard-street; and of the Agent-General for the Government of Queensland, 1, Westminster-chambers, Victoria-streets, S.W.

Bank of England, 14th March, 1890.

FREDK. SPENCER,

STOCK AND SHARE DEALER,

155, FENCHURCH-STREET,

LONDON, E.C.

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DIRECTORS.

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H. PASTEUR, Esq., Chairman of Oceana Transvaal Land Company (Limited).

J. C. DIMSDALE, Esq., Banker, 50, Cornhill.

T. MORGAN HARVEY, Esq., Director of City Bank (Limited), and Bank of Africa, Cannon-street.

P. HENWOOD, Esq., of Messrs. P. Henwood, Son, and Co.

CHARLES D. ROSE, Esq., of Messrs. Morton, Rose, and Co.

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Further information can be obtained by written or personal application to the Head Office, 61, Cornhill, London, E.C.

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Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY, Chairman.

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80,000 Annual Policyholders.

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COMPENSATION PAID, £2,750,000.

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Makes
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Makes
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Makes
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Will do a day's work in an hour.

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The Committee earnestly appeal for prompt help.
Remittances may be sent to G. S. MEARS, Esq., J.P., Treasurer and Chairman; or to MATTHIAS COLAM, Secretary.
Temporary House for Lost and Starving Dogs, Battersea Park-road, S.W.
Doors closed at 4 p.m.

TAX PAYERS' PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.
A MEETING will be held in ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY, TO-MORROW (Friday) EVENING, March 21, when Mr. HITCHINGS will read a paper on "Income Tax and its Assessment," after which Resolutions will be proposed dealing with
Income Tax,
Inhabited House Duty on Tenements,
Water Companies' Charges.
The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock, and the meeting will be addressed by several M.P.'s and other influential gentlemen.
Ratepayers are invited to attend. Tickets, free of charge, may be obtained on application at the Head Offices of the Association, 10, SERJEANTS'-INN, FLEET-STREET.

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Mr. BROWNING'S system of suiting the sight is to carefully test the eyes without the use of atropine or belladonna, and then have a pair of spectacles or folders made specially, under his own supervision, for each person who applies to him, the lenses being worked to suit all peculiarities of vision and the frames made to fit the features.—JOHN BROWNING, Ophthalmic Optician (Author of "Our Eyes," now in its Eighth Edition), may be consulted free of charge in all cases of failing vision, at 63, STRAND, LONDON.

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It quickly arouses great Bodily, Nerve, Mental, and Digestive Strength, promotes Appetite, securing Health, Strength, and Energy.
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SORENESS and DRYNESS, TICKLING and IRRITATION, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use EPPS'S GLYCERINE JUJUBES. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold in Tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."

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BEECHAM'S PILLS
ARE universally admitted to be worth a Guinea a Box for Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fulness and Swelling after Meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Scurvy and Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes. Every sufferer is earnestly invited to try One Box of these Pills, and they will be acknowledged to be
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"My overcoat came to me in very poor health, and had been under medical treatment for two years for consumption. I presented her with a bottle of your Lung Tonic, and before she had taken two of them she was quite restored.—JOHN WATKIN, Winteringham, Lincolnshire.
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Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—THURSDAY, March 20, 1890.